

Hafa Adai!

Man stages armed robbery at Island Hotel.

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75¢



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GARAPAN CAR CRASH UPDATE

Driver returns to hospital; found with fractured spine

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The alleged drunk driver of a gray Ford F150 four-door pickup truck that slammed into a power pole in Garapan returned to the hospital two days after the crash for back pain, while his front passenger, a firefighter, is awaiting medical evacuation to the Philippines.

» Firefighter passenger to be taken to PH

Department of Public Safety acting spokesman Jason Tarkong said that Joseph Aaron Hokin, the 26-year-old driver, returned to the Commonwealth Health Center two days after the crash due to back

pain and was diagnosed with a fractured spine.

Hokin reportedly refused medical treatment on the day of the crash and was released shortly after arriving at the hospital's emergency room.

Tarkong said Jack Steven S. Deleon Guer-

See DRIVER on Page 4

Ogumoro allowed to post property bond

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

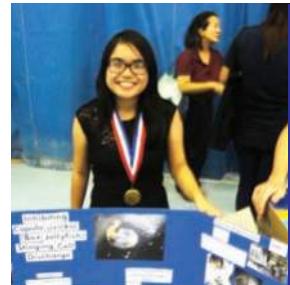
Former Department of Public Safety deputy commissioner Ambrosio T. Ogumoro was allowed to post a \$25,000 property bond, but Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho

imposed strict conditions in connection with his new criminal case.

At a bail modification hearing on Friday, Camacho found Ogumoro's older brother, Fr. Isidro Ogumoro, and his older sister, Feliciana O. Dilley, suitable to serve as third-party custodians.

See OGUMORO on Page 4

INSIDE



LOCAL

Maria Theresa Dizon is the overall winner for grades 9 to 12 in the Islandwide STEM Fair.

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NATION

Indiana Gov. Mike Pence says effort to 'clarify' religious objections law now underway.

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LIFE & STYLE

The Terminator and Arnold Schwarzenegger are back this summer for another go.

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Local

Woman gets 1-day prison term for bank fraud

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona Manglona has imposed a one-day prison term on a woman who pleaded

guilty to using another person's ATM card 46 times to fraudulently withdraw over \$800 from the real owner's savings ac-

count.

Manglona on Tuesday gave Esperanza Estrada Ellis credit for time served.

Ellis was placed on supervised release for three years, required her to perform 50 hours of community service, and pay a \$100 special assessment fee.

Restitution hearing will be on March 31, 2015.

Ellis pleaded guilty to bank fraud as part of a plea agreement.

Ellis is the registered owner and recipient of P.O. Box 504858 on Saipan. In June or July 2012, Ellis received an ATM bank card from Bank of Guam. This ATM card was in

the name of Silvia C. Macato. She does not know Macato or have any relation to her.

Around the same time, Ellis

received from BOG a personal identification number to go with the ATM card she received.

On several occasions in 2012,

Ellis used the ATM card and PIN several times to withdraw at least \$800 from Macato's account. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

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Yogurt Farm opens to a crowd



DENNIS B. CHAN

Gummy worms, almonds, wafers, chocolate chip, and honey nut cheerios were some of the many toppings Yogurt Farm offered at the grand opening last Friday.

BY DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The island has a new place for its "froyo" cravings when Yogurt Farm opened to a crowd last Friday afternoon.

Owner Michael Demapan had a busy grand opening with a line of young and older customers stretching all the way outside the doors.

One high schooler, Jershawn, who came with family and friends, called his froyo, "Awesome." "We were really excited to have this open up because our family is really big yogurt fans. So having this open was really big news."

"Tasty, delicious, creamy," he said, describing the yogurt he got.

Cookies and cream, no sugar-added mint, non-fat tart, no

sugar added blueberry, nonfat chocolate, and toffee are some of available flavors.

Demapan said new flavors are on the way like red velvet, alpine vanilla, and other "awesome" flavors."

He called Yogurt Farm a "healthier alternative" to the sugary desserts that people sometimes abuse.

"Yogurt is one of the healthiest dessert available," Demapan said. "Saipan has kind of been lacking that for a long time. We wanted to bring something unique that everybody else has around the world here."

He thinks yogurt is for everyone, young and old.

"Yogurt is very all encompassing. Whether you are old and have a sugar restriction. Or if you have kids and you want to expose them to healthier al-

ternatives other than plain ice cream. We give people the option to try to eat healthy," he said.

The idea for Yogurt Farm has been in Demapan's mind for over a year now. He described his efforts as "a lot of planning."

They bought their yogurt machines in December.

The frozen yogurt joint is located two roads behind Duty Free store and across the road from Chineng Ice Candy.

Demapan said they chose their location because it's within the community and they want to give back that way. "It's here all the time," he said. "And it's almost like a dessert street," he added, noting that the ice candy store is just across the street.

Fr. Ike Ayuyu led a blessing of the premises before the opening.

Hafadai Hotel is now Grandvrio Resort

The Hafadai Beach Hotel on Saipan will now be known as "Grandvrio Resort Saipan."

A statement from Akira Takaoka, the hotel's general manager, said the hotel has seen "and accommodated a broad range of tourists in line with the globalized market in Saipan."

"Hereby we are pleased to announce that our hotel name 'Hafadai Beach Hotel,' which has years of history and has been popularly well known by many people, shall be changed,"

Takaoka said.

The new hotel will carry the "Grandvrio" brand, which has been developed nationwide in Japan, under the Route Inn group, the executive said.

"Grandvrio" originated from the Italian word "grand" and "brio" meaning "vigor."

Takaoka vowed that the hotel will continue to "cordially welcome our valued customers and make our best efforts for them by providing comfortable accommodation and

quality service."

The executive did not say if the hotel will add more facilities to go with the name change.

The hotel currently has 425 rooms and, at 18 stories high, remains the tallest hotel building on Saipan. It is one of the oldest landmarks in Garapan and is strategically located near other tourist spots, including the T-Galleria shopping center.

The hotel will still be operated by Saipan Hotel Corp. (*Joel D. Pinaroc*)

DPS chief asks court to dismiss lawsuit over guns

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie.delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Department of Public Safety Commissioner James C. Deleon Guerrero has asked the federal court to dismiss a \$5-million lawsuit filed by former U.S. Army Ranger Paul Michael Murphy over the alleged confiscation of his firearms and ammunition in 2007.

Deleon Guerrero, through assistant attorney general James M. Zarones, asserted that the U.S. District Court for the NMI has no subject matter jurisdiction in this case and that Murphy has failed to serve summons upon him.

Zarones said that Murphy's second attempt to initiate a

lawsuit against the CNMI, Deleon Guerrero, or whoever he is trying to sue, must fail for lack of compliance with the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

Zarones said the caption of the complaint indicates that Murphy is still attempting to file a lawsuit against the Commonwealth but the language of the case indicates that the true defendant is Deleon Guerrero, in his personal and professional capacity.

Zarones said that Murphy must once and for all decide who he is trying to sue before further burdening the court and Deleon Guerrero with additional filings.

Second, he said, Murphy

failed to sign his complaint, depriving the court of subject matter jurisdiction.

Finally, Zarones said, Murphy failed to serve a summons upon Deleon Guerrero so he may not proceed until he complies with the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure by properly serving the commissioner.

In his declaration filed in court on Thursday, Deleon Guerrero disclosed that he has not received a summons in

this case and has not received a signed complaint.

In a *pro se* complaint (filed without a lawyer), Murphy, who is now a teacher, also asked the court to repeal the CNMI Weapons Control Act and all associated legislation, licensing, taxation, recording, administration, and processing.

Murphy said DPS withheld all his firearms and ammunition until the issuance of a

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firearms, ammunition, and explosive identification card on Sept. 20, 2007.

He said his two firearms were sent to Guam Police

Department armory for holding while the ammunition is still being held by CNMI DPS Firearms Section.

Murphy said DPS had denied his repeated request to carry and possess his rifle and pistol.

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Lawmakers to ‘explore’ options for CHCC

Lawmakers will explore all the options to determine what is feasible for the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. A move to separate the CHCC and public health has been discussed although the idea is still “hanging.”

“While I’m aware that the administration is mulling over the idea of separating public health services from the CHCC, I am not privy to the details of this

plan at this point,” said Rep. Angel Demapan (R-Saipan).

“This is just one of several options on the table up for consideration. Other options include that of a governing board or remaining with an advisory board, but with structural amendments to existing statute,” he said.

The lawmaker said the Legislature “will openly explore all these options in an effort to determine what is most feasible.”

Senate wants to summon Cabinet heads on future plans

By JOEL D. PINAROC
joel_pinaroc@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Members of the Senate intend to meet with key Cabinet heads and find out the departments’ respective plans.

At the regular Senate session on Thursday, Sen. Justo Quitugua (Ind-Saipan) brought the topic to the floor that was then supported by his colleagues.

Quitugua said the proposed meeting is intended for lawmakers to meet the department

heads and discuss plans.

“I think it is time to have a face-to-face discussions with them,” Quitugua said, adding that the senators do not mean to conduct an “oversight hearing.”

“It is just for us to know what the department heads are planning to do in the next four years or if they have new plans,” he said.

Quitugua said lawmakers will also share with the department heads the commu-

nity’s concerns.

“Community members do no go to the departments to express their concerns. They come to us and tell us all of these things,” Quitugua said. “Now that we know these concerns, we want to relay these concerns to the departments.”

Sen. Arnold I. Palacios (R-Saipan) supports Quitugua’s call, adding that the meeting will be “very relevant.”

Quitugua added that some of the senators “barely know” the

heads of these departments.

The heads of the departments of Public Land, Finance, Public Safety, and Community and Cultural Affairs will be invited to the proposed meeting.

All of these Cabinet heads have been re-appointed by Gov. Eloy S. Inos to serve another four years.

Senate President Victor B. Hocog (Ind-Rota) said his office will send notices to the department heads for the meeting. No schedule was discussed.

PSS looks to promote its own for \$50K to \$60K tech director job

The Public School System is looking within itself for an ungraded \$50,000 to \$60,000 “State Technology Director” position.

The director takes a supervisory role over PSS network and communications programs and infrastructure, including broadband, online assessments, digital content and digital pro-

fessional learning.

According to the PSS job vacancy announcement, minimum requirements are a U.S. accredited college associate of arts or science degree and five years of work related experience and technical certification.

That, or a bachelor’s of arts degree and three years work

experience and technical, or a master’s degree with one year of related experience and certification.

Titled “Promotional/Transfer Opportunity (PSS Employees Only),” the position opened on March 19 and will close on April 2. Salary is an ungraded \$50,000 to \$60,000. Benefits include life insur-

ance, retirement, and paid leave/holidays benefits.

PSS Human Resources staff clarified the position as an internal announcement where “you need to be in the system” to apply. The HR office did not respond to an email Friday on whether the position would also be announced publicly in the future. (*Dennis B. Chan*)

OGUMORO

From Page 1

Attorney Janet H. King, counsel for O gumoro, offered Fr. O gumoro’s land in Kagman consisting of 31,144 square meters as property bond instead of the \$25,000 cash that the court earlier imposed.

Camacho ordered the 57-year-old O gumoro to surrender his passport, obey all laws, not contact his co-defendant, Herman M. Manglona, and other witnesses in the case, and stay away from airport.

The judge allowed O gumoro to go to his bar, True North Bar & Grill in Garapan.

The judge also allowed O gumoro to pick up the catch from his fishing boat but prohibited

him from going to the water. Arraignment will be on April 6 at 9am.

At the bail medication hearing, King said the court has the discretion to impose bail on a defendant and that it should consider the testimony of O gumoro’s proposed third-party custodians.

King said O gumoro is self-employed, runs a fishing boat, and manages True North Bar & Grill. She said her client should not be precluded from doing activities related to his business.

Chief Prosecutor Leonardo Rapadas said if the court allows O gumoro to post a property bond, the government would recommend house arrest.

Rapadas said their concern is that they haven’t had a chance to look at the papers of the mortgaged property. He

also mentioned about their concern of allowing O gumoro to go to True North Bar & Grill, where one of the alleged crime incidents happened.

In allowing O gumoro to go to the True North Bar & Grill, Camacho said he’s sure the alleged computer that belonged to DPS is no longer in the bar.

According to a police report, O gumoro had a 1995 Toyota four-door Tercel that belonged to DPS repaired for \$2,500 using DPS funds in 2012 and then sold the vehicle as “scrap” for only \$50 to Herman Manglona.

O gumoro and Katherine Manglona also allegedly instructed a DPS staff to bring a DPS desktop computer to a shop for repair using DPS funding in the amount of \$276. The computer was allegedly later used in the office at True

North Bar & Grill. Police arrested O gumoro and his 43-year-old girlfriend, former police officer Katherine Manglona, last Monday night, March 23, on Saipan. Herman Manglona, brother of Katherine Manglona, was arrested on Tinian last Tuesday.

O gumoro was arrested for misconduct in public office, theft by unlawful taking or disposition, and removal of government property.

Katherine Manglona was arrested for theft by unlawful taking or disposition, and conspiracy to commit theft by unlawful taking or disposition.

Herman Manglona, 45, was arrested for receiving stolen property and conspiracy to commit theft by unlawful taking or disposition.

According to at-scene investigator Juan Mendiola, the Ford F150 pickup truck was traveling south on Beach Road, Garapan.

Witnesses saw the truck traveling at a high rate of speed. As the truck approached the traffic signal light intersection, it somehow lost control, hit a steel post, went off the road and struck a power pole, eventually coming to rest on the southbound shoulder.

Blas said the truck had extensive damage on all sides.

DRIVER

From Page 1

rero, 22, the passenger on the front seat, suffered a laceration to his right ear, a fractured spine, and is possibly paralyzed from the waist down.

Tarkong said that, as of Friday, Deleon Guerrero was awaiting medical evacuation to the Philippines for further treatment or surgery.

Tarkong said that Leilani S.

Cepeda, 23, also a passenger, sustained bruises on the face and a laceration on her forehead, and was discharged from the hospital the day after the incident.

Traffic investigators have determined that speed and alcohol were factors in the car crash that occurred on the southbound shoulder of Beach Road by the intersection of T Galleria and Bank of Guam near the Garapan basketball court in the early morning hours of March 22.

Police Sgt. Tom Blas earlier

stated that Hokin was cited for speeding, driving under the influence of alcohol, reckless driving, and for seatbelt violations.

Blas said Hokin, Deleon Guerrero, and Cepeda were not wearing seatbelts at the time of the accident.

Police investigation showed that Police Officer Raymond Pangalinan called DPS Central Dispatch last March 22 at 3:12am, to report the car crash.

Medics and police responded to the scene.

THE COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS OF SAIPAN

Family Grief Support Meeting on April 2

The Compassionate Friends of Saipan will be holding their monthly grief support meeting on Thursday, April 2, from 6pm to 7:30pm, in the NMPASI conference room on Middle Road, in Gualo Rai.

We offer understanding and hope to bereaved parents, siblings and grandparents who are grieving the loss of a child of any age, and from any cause. We provide a safe, confidential setting, in which to share our experiences, while respecting and supporting each other, and listening. We have “been there.” We do not espouse any specific religious or philosophical ideology. There is no “right way” to grieve, and family members are welcome to come to share or just to listen.

The mission of The Compassionate Friends is to assist families toward the positive resolution of grief following the death of a child of any age and to provide information to help others to be supportive. Today more than 600 chapters serving all 50 states plus Washington, D.C., Puerto Rico, Guam and Saipan offer friendship, understanding, and hope to bereaved parents, siblings and grandparents during the natural grieving process after a child has died.

For more information, email tcfSaipan@gmail.com or call Jill Derickson (989-9821). To learn more about The Compassionate Friends, visit their website at www.compassionate-friends.org. (TCF)

COMMISSION

From Page 1

among others.

A provision for junket operators is still pending, he said, and will be tackled after another round of review by the commission.

The regulations have been subject to an “emergency adoption” because of the government’s urgent need for financial resources,” the resolution states.

Deleon Guerrero added that the regulations have been fast-tracked to allow the Saipan casino licensee—Best Sunshine International, Ltd.—to move forward on its planned temporary “live” training facility at the T Galleria in Garapan.

The resolution states that the “[Best Sunshine] is presently unable to hire and train employees or order gaming machines or equipment in order to implement the live training operations and other gaming activities without the existence of the Commonwealth Casino Commission Rules and Regulations, thereby hindering the job market for Commonwealth job seekers and jeopardizing the Commonwealth’s ability to immediately collect urgently needed revenues from the casino industry.”

Governor’s signature

Michael Ernest, the legal counsel of the casino commission, said the adopted casino regulations will now be forwarded to the office of Gov. Eloy S. Inos.

If the governor concurs that the public requires the emergency adoption of these regulations, and that they are needed right now, he will sign it,” Er-

nest said, adding that the regulations, signed on an emergency basis, will be good for 120 days.

“Once he [Inos] signs it, the document gets transferred to the Attorney General for publication in the *Commonwealth Register*,” Ernest added.

If the governor disapproves the regulations, then the regulations will have no legal “effect.”

The lawyer said the commission has made a “determination” that these regulations be adopted immediately, noting that the commission will again meet to promulgate the regulations which will open a three-day window for the general public to submit comments.

“The commission will welcome these comments,” he said.

Commission budget

Deleon Guerrero said the casino commission will request a budget of \$2.6 million from the government for its 2016 operations.

He said a part of the budget will be used for personnel hiring, noting that the casino commission is eyeing to hire 28 staff, and 20 more once the Best Sunshine temporary casino is completed.

The executive director stressed that the commission’s budget did not come from local appropriations and is “not replenishing itself.”

Deleon Guerrero said the commission is also eyeing to establish its own offices in May. Currently, the commission is housed at the Governor’s Office building on Capital Hill, on a temporary basis.

He said the casino commission office is also expected to operate 24-7 once the casino in Garapan opens.

Man stages armed robbery at Island Hotel

An unidentified man armed with a long gun robbed the Island Hotel on Alaihai Avenue in Garapan of \$20 to \$40 cash early Thursday morning, police said.

The suspect was described as skinny, with white hair, wearing a pair of dark long pants with a black long-sleeved shirt, and a gray T-shirt wrapped around his mouth.

A 26-year-old female front desk clerk told responding police officers that at 4:15am, she heard a vehicle with a loud muffler arrive at the hotel. The suspect entered the lobby holding a black long gun, which the front desk clerk described as looking like a shotgun with a gray small cloth covering the tip of the barrel. The suspect then handed the

clerk a red plastic grocery bag, demanding money. The clerk handed over three envelopes, one containing \$20 to \$40 cash, and the other two envelopes containing receipts of the hotel's daily activities.

The robber grabbed the envelope

and ran to the parking lot, jumping into the speeding car with the loud muffler.

Anyone who has information about the suspect may call police or NMI Crime Stoppers hotline at 234-7272. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

Chamber meeting on April 1 at Fiesta

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce will hold its monthly general membership meeting on April 1, 2015. Gil San Nicolas, former Labor secretary, will speak to the members about the progress the Department of Labor is making with regards to enhancing the workforce. Also, Education Commissioner Dr. Rita Sablan will speak concern-

ing the various initiatives for career ready programs in the school system. The meeting will begin at 11:30am at Hibiscus Hall of the Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan, with the business meeting starting at noon. Cost for members is \$20; non-members are charged \$30. Guests are welcome and encouraged! (SCC)

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Kia Sedona LX retail price \$30,995.00 less 20% downpayment. Financing at 7% APR for 60 monthly payments of \$490.99 or \$226.61 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred payment \$29,459.40.

Big turnout for *Swan Lake* ballet concert

Hundreds turned out to watch Glushko's Academy of Performing Arts' ballet concert on the first night of the performance last Saturday evening at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe.

Community members got a taste of one of Russia's most famous 19th century ballets, *Swan Lake*, with the international and local cast taking turns mesmerizing the crowd with their grace and beauty.

The concert was held for two days, Saturday and Sunday.

Swan Lake, most often referred to as the ballet of ballets, is based on an old Russian folktale that tells the story of Odette, a princess who was turned into a

Local workforce training presented at SHRM meeting

The Society for Human Resource Management CNMI Chapter invited three speakers on Thursday to talk about the CNMI's future workforce needs and the options businesses have following the expiration of the CW program in 2019.

Staff from various organizations, government agencies, and businesses who work in human resources listened to presentations from the three speakers at the SHRM monthly membership meeting at the Pacific Islands Club Saipan's Charley's Cabaret.

Delta Management Corp. president Jim Arenovski, Hyatt Regency Saipan human resources director Josephine DLG-Mesta, and G4S Training Academy project manager Dr. Julie Ulloa-Heath presented their respective institutions' training programs.

Arenovski spoke about Latte Training Academy and the AHLEI START program that they are offering to the Public

swan by an evil sorcerer's curse. The concert showcased four excerpts of *Swan Lake*, with international ballet stars Margarita Rudina and Alexey Nasadovich performing the main characters of Princess Odette

RELATED NEWS

See related photos on Page 13

(she performed two roles) and Prince Siegfried, respectively.

About 50 other performers took part in the weekend concert.

Performance started with the children dancing and playing in the palace courtyard. Soon after Prince Siegfried came out with his mother the Queen, played by Helen Bucher. The

School System.

Arenovski spoke about the great effort and dedication the graduates of his local workforce training programs have shown.

He also spoke about the courses that they offer beyond the AHLEI START program.

Ulloa-Heath spoke of the training academy she manages in G4S. Located at the TSL Plaza in Garapan, trainees undergo security and lifeguard training for possible employment elsewhere and within the company.

Mesta talked about how the Northern Marianas Trade Institute and Hyatt have partnered up and how contract workers were transitioned out of Hyatt and replaced with resident workers.

Mesta later told *Saipan Tribune* that the whole reason for the presentations was to illustrate the different ways that are now being pursued to create a stronger workforce in the local community.

"We have three companies

Queen gives him a crossbow, and the prince leaves for the woods to hunt.

In scene 2, Prince Siegfried finds himself alone in a peaceful spot by an enchanted lake where swans—played by the young ballerinas—floated on the surface. While he watches he spots the most beautiful swan with a crown on its head. She then turns into the most beautiful young woman Prince Siegfried has ever seen.

In scene 3, Prince Siegfried is presented with prospective princesses from different countries, but all he could think about was Princess Odette. Von Rothbart (performed by David Bucher), the

on island actually doing training and we're all here to share what training opportunities they are offering for our local workforce," she said.

SHRM board president Frank Gibson said these are great programs that the agencies are offering, considering that the end of the CW program is a problem for all the employers and human resources staff in the CNMI.

"All the HR staff and the present workforce are making sure that the staff isn't a problem now because we're trying to focus on training our local workforce toward the ending of the CW period and the expansion of the new companies coming into the CNMI. This will help them and they are here to share those type of opportunities and it is a great thing," he said.

SHRM's next meeting is set for April 30. For more information about the NMI Chapter, you can visit their website at <http://nmichapter.shrm.org>. (Jayson Camacho)

the evil sorcerer, brings his daughter, Odile (again performed by Rudina) whom Rothbart has placed a spell on to look like Odette.

In scene 4, Prince Siegfried chases after Rothbart and a fight starts, he defeats Rothbart and the spell is lifted and all the swans turn back into women.

The second part of the concert had several pieces performed by Rudina and Nasadovich including a solo by their daughter, Eva Nasadov-

ich, who is currently a student at the No.1 ballet school in the world, the Vaganova Academy in St. Petersburg, Russia.

Contemporary performances were performed as well by the couple and Glushko Academy's advance ballet performers.

Dr. Gene Eagle-Oden, founder and president of Performing Arts Society, said the turnout was great.

"This is a very big crowd and just having them here is a great honor and treat. We'd also like to thank Rudina, Nasadovich, and their daughter

for visiting Saipan to put on a true performance of true ballet stars," he said.

The concert's sponsors were Bank of Guam, First Hawaiian Bank, Mango Resort Saipan, Blue Lagoon Realty, Bridge Capital, Pete Shilling and "Associate Insurance", Bank of Saipan, Bank of Hawaii, Alex Aquiningoc, Pacific Trading Co. Saipan, La Trattoria Restaurant, Pacific Island Club Saipan, 360 Restaurant, Pacifica Subsea, Marianas Eye Institute, Shirley's Coffee Shop, Paradise Hotel, and Coca-Cola. (Jayson Camacho)

OAG launches 31st Attorney General's Cup

Manibusan.

This year, eight high schools will be participating: Marianas High School, Saipan Southern High School, Kagman High School, Mt. Carmel School, Grace Christian Academy, Marianas Baptist Academy, Dr. Rita H. Inos High School, and Tinian High School. The Office of the Attorney General is pleased to announce that the 31st Annual Attorney General's Cup Speech Competition will be held on April 30, 2015, at 10am at the CNMI Supreme Court courtroom.

"The AG's Cup provides our high school students with the opportunity to research an issue that affects the Commonwealth, form a position on the issue, and showcase their voice and passion for his or her position on the topic," said Attorney General Edward

Rotary seeks NMHC help in Kagman park project

Rotary Club of Saipan's Kagman park project might start seeing improvements this year if funding from the Northern Marianas Housing Corp.'s Community Development Block Grant is pushed through and accepted.

Brian Clayton, Rotary Club director for community services, said the Kagman park project design is intended to make the Kagman Community Center more inviting and more usable to the public.

This includes a full renovation of the basketball court, a built-in fence around the property line for the basket-

ball court, bleachers with a roof, a playground, and seating area.

Clayton said so far Rotary has saved from \$15,000 to \$30,000,

but this is not enough to supplement the bigger phase of the project.

Clayton said the CDBG

funding from NMHC will help

the club's community project if NMHC accepts their application.

Clayton noted that the proj-

ect's estimated cost is between

\$150,000 and \$200,000.

"Our design basically is that the basketball court will eventually become a full court with bleachers and a cover for

the proposals that we're going to turn in on April 6, we will find out if it is accepted and then hopefully get construction going and get it done. As of now there is nothing happening yet, we need additional funding.

The funding from CDBG

will supplement the project," he said. (Jayson Camacho)

| | |
|--|--------------------------|
| Robert Tenorio Torres Attorney at Law Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya) P.O. Box 503758 Saipan, MP 96950 | Civil Action No. 14-0171 |
| Plaintiff, vs. AMENDED SUMMONS | |
| Marina A. Cuyugan Defendant. | |

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANT: MARINA A. CUYUGAN

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED AND NOTIFIED to file any answer you wish to make to the COMPLAINT within (20) days after service of this AMENDED SUMMONS upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to Robert Tenorio Torres, Attorney at Law, P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950, or as soon as practicable after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Court for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Office of the Clerk of Court, CNMI Superior Court, 1st Floor, Guma Hustisia, Ilimwal Aweeue, House of Justice, P.O. Box 500307, Saipan, MP 96950-0307. It may be prepared and signed for you by your attorney and sent to the Clerk of Court by messenger or by mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice.

If you fail to file an answer in accordance with this AMENDED SUMMONS, judgment by default pursuant to the court rules of the above-entitled Court may be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

SO ORDERED on this 20th day of March, 2015.

/s/ CLERK OF COURT

| | |
|--|--------------------------|
| Robert Tenorio Torres Attorney at Law Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya) P.O. Box 503758 Saipan, MP 96950 | Civil Action No. 15-0025 |
| Plaintiff, vs. AMENDED SUMMONS | |
| Elphidia B. Camacho, Defendant. | |

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANT: ELPHIDIA B. CAMACHO

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED AND NOTIFIED to file any answer you wish to make to the COMPLAINT, a copy of which can be obtained at the Law Office of Robert Tenorio Torres in Chalan Kiya, within twenty (20) days after service of this AMENDED SUMMONS upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to Robert Tenorio Torres, Attorney at Law, P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950, or as soon as practicable after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Court for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Office of the Clerk of Court, CNMI Superior Court, 1st Floor, Guma Hustisia, Ilimwal Aweeue, House of Justice, P.O. Box 500307, Saipan, MP 96950-0307. It may be prepared and signed for you by your attorney and sent to the Clerk of Court by messenger or by mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice.

If you fail to file an answer in accordance with this AMENDED SUMMONS, judgment by default pursuant to the court rules of the above-entitled Court may be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

SO ORDERED on this 23rd day of March, 2015.

/s/ Clerk of Court/Deputy Clerk

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|--|----------------------------|
| TIMOTHY H. BELLAS, Esq. Law Offices of Timothy H. Bellas, LLC Attorney-at-Law JET Realty Bldg., Suite 204 P.O. Box 502845 Saipan, MP 96950 Telephone: 323-2115 | ATTORNEY FOR Plaintiff |
| IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS | |
| IN RE THE ESTATE OF,) CIVIL ACTION NO. 15-0044 |) CIVIL ACTION NO. 13-0023 |
| HENRY SUI-YIN PUN,) | Plaintiff, -v- |
| vs.) NOTICE OF HEARING) AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS | ALFONSO R. DELA CRUZ,) |
| Deceased.) | Defendant.) |

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that on the 28th of April, 2015, at 1:30 p.m., NOMI MA'S petition to be appointed the Executor of the Estate of HENRY SUI-YIN PUN, decedent, and for the Last and Will and Testament of said decedent to be admitted into probate, will be heard by the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Said hearing will take place at the second floor of the Guma Hustisia, in Susupe, Saipan, when and where all persons interested in said Estate may appear and object to said appointment or the probate of the Will.

NOTICE IS ALSO HEREBY GIVEN, to all creditors, heirs and any person having any interest in or claim against the Estate of HENRY SUI-YIN PUN, deceased, to file any claim they may have with the Commonwealth Superior Court or with Timothy H. Bellas, attorney for the Executrix, whose mailing address is P.O. Box 502845, Saipan, MP 96950, within sixty (60) days after the date of first publication of this Notice.

Dated this 17th day of March, 2015.

/s/ Deputy Clerk of Court
Commonwealth Superior Court

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|---|------------------------|
| MICHAEL A. WHITE, Esq. F0122 THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC POST OFFICE BOX 5222 SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950 TEL: (670) 234-6547 FAX: (670) 234-9537 | ATTORNEY FOR Plaintiff |
| IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS | |
| THE FINANCIAL & INSURANCE SERVICES GROUP, INC.,) CIVIL ACTION NO. 13-0023 |) |
| vs.) Plaintiff, -v- |) |
| YU YAN FENG,) |) SUMMONS |
| Defendant.) |) |

NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on February 19, 2015, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendant and to the following property: that certain tract or parcel of real property situated in Dandan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, designated as part of Lot 029 H 01 (H-169), more particularly described as follows:

Beginning at the corner which is designated as corner No. 1, having plane rectangular coordinates of 47.9713 meters North and 51.968.913 meters East of the Mariana Islands coordinate system of 1966. Thence S 46° 55' 43" E, 22.315 meters to corner 2;

Thence S 43° 04' 17" W, 26.213 meters to corner 3;

Thence N 46° 55' 43" W, 26.450 meters to corner 4;

Thence N 48° 40' 00" E, 42.415 meters to corner 1, the point of beginning, subject to survey;

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, April 10, 2015, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at the Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 11th day of March, 2015.

/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Name: Xu Zhang Yu P.O. Box 505659 Saipan, MP 96950 Telephone No. 285-6118 | Pro se |
| IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS | |
| Xu Zhang Yu) FCD PA vs.) CIVIL ACTION NO. 15-0113 |) |
| vs.) Plaintiff(s).) |) |
| YU YAN FENG) |) SUMMONS |
| Defendant.) |) |

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is given you herewith, within thirty (30) days after service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to Plaintiff(s), Xu Zhang Yu, whose mailing address is P.O. Box 505659, Saipan, MP 96950, as soon as practicable after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for Filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at the Civic Center, Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice.

If you fail to file an answer in accordance with this summons, Judgment by Default may be taken against you for relief in the Complaint.

Dated this 4th day of March, 2015.

/s/ Clerk of Court
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

| |
|---|
| MICHAEL A. WHITE, Esq. F0122 THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC POST OFFICE BOX 5222 SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950 TEL: (670) 234-6547 FAX: (670 |
|---|

16 advance to Nat'l Speech and Debate tilt in June



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Northern Marianas High School Speech and Debate champions, from left to right, Yuuki Nishida (duo), Jayrald Mercene (duo), Mobtasim Alam (U.S. extemporaneous), Robert Malate (humorous interpretation), Bruce Li (impromptu), Ariane Reyes (poetry), Yujin Lee (prose), Scarlet Chen (expository), Katrina Punzalan (international extemporaneous), Cathryn Javier (commentary), Elizabeth Rose Jones (dramatic interpretation), Thomas Manglona II (Lincoln-Douglas debate), and Rebekah Kim (original oratory).

By THOMAS MANGLONA II

CORRESPONDENT

Sixteen students will represent the islands in the National Speech and Debate Association competition after bagging gold medals in the four-day regional competition last week at Marianas High School.

The student champions, from public and private high schools, will vie for national titles against other competitors from 110 school districts in Dallas, Texas, from June 14 to 19.

Saipan Southern High School's Katrina Punzalan will be vying for the top spot in international extemporaneous speaking, while Mount Carmel School's Thomas Manglona II and Cathryn Javier will compete in Lincoln-Douglas debate

and commentary, respectively.

Elizabeth Rose Jones from Kagman High School will be competing in dramatic interpretation. Grace Christian Academy's Yujin Lee will represent the islands in the prose category. Northern Marianas Academy's Rebekah Kim is set to compete in original oratory. Saipan International School's sole winner, Isaac Jang, will be competing in story telling.

Marianas High School brought fierce competition to the regional event and dominated the winners' bracket with nine national team representatives: the tandem of Yuuki Nishida and Jayrald Mercene will represent the islands in the duo category. Mobtasim Alam will be competing in United States extemporaneous speak-

ing and Robert Malate will compete in humorous interpretation. Scarlet Chen will be traveling for expository, Ariane Reyes for poetry, and Bruce Li for impromptu speech.

Two students from MHS will also be sent to the national competition for their win in the regional Chamorro categories last week.

Hundreds of students participate in monthly local competitions throughout the year in order to qualify for the regionals. According to NSDA registrar Mary Angela Wheat, a total of 53 students from nine schools competed in the regional tilt.

Student competitor Yujin Lee said she is very honored and thankful for another opportunity to represent the islands.

"I would not be able to be where I am today if it were not for the support I have received from my parents, coach, and fellow competitors. I truly believe that God has a great path set out for all of us," she said.

Fellow orator Katrina Punzalan said that she has invested much of her time in the competition because she finds great joy in speaking. "There's no real guarantee of

winning but there's always the guarantee of learning something new while also having fun."

Freshman competitor Elizabeth Rose Jones said, "It's a very good feeling to have won! There was a lot of memorizing and practices. It was a lot of hard work, but it paid off."

A number of students said

they spent countless hours after school and on weekends preparing for competition. Many expressed gratitude to their parents and school speech and debate coaches.

MHS NSDA assistant coach Dencio V. Manglona told *Saipan Tribune* that MHS' success has been an arduous but fun process.

"The students have put in so much effort—we practice at least twice a week, and this doesn't include the quick edit over Google Docs or ad hoc research session for the perfect novel," he added. "Over this NSDA season we've waxed and waned in our sleep levels and our certainty over whether we'd make it to the national team, but we're both extremely humbled and excited to represent the CNMI in Dallas this year."

Filmah Buenaflor, a long time

NSDA speech coach for MCS, expressed similar sentiments. She said, "I am grateful for the prints and guardians who are very supportive. It is a pleasure working with our students every year who continue to do great."

CNMI Speech and Debate Association board chair Harold Easton lauded the student orators for their fear of not speaking in public.

"You guys have the skills and talent. It is time to prepare for the next level of competition at the national event," he said. "I am confident that you will all do very well."

The NSDA is the largest academic competition in the world. Finalists compete for college scholarships in the main events. The CNMI last sent students to compete in the National Speech Debate Association competition in Dallas, Texas, in 2011.

Exec sees boost in confidence from Korean, Chinese tourists

By JOEL D. PINAROC

joel_pinaroc@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Tourists from Korea and China are showing a "boost in confidence" in the CNMI's tourism industry. This would mean more jobs, new investments, services and attractions for these tourists, according to Jim Arenovski, president of Delta Management Corp. on Saipan.

The executive said the hospitality industry is still the "number one employer of people in the CNMI and is set to grow with the addition of new hotels and restaurants, not to mention the sizeable workforce that the casino will be requiring."

"We are currently seeing a boost in confidence with Korean and Chinese tourism increasing. This is attracting new investments, services and attractions. But the underlying factor to success is manpower. Companies should have motivated, dedicated, and committed people to fill these important jobs,"

Arenovski said.

According to the executive, "most jobs in the hospitality and tourism area are jobs of passion or caring."

"Being friendly on purpose, having a great attitude toward the job and the guests your serve—the right attitude helps you engage our guests, anticipating and meeting their needs and hopefully exceeding their expectations with will make their stay in the NMI (and you) memorable," said Arenovski, who is also an executive of Island Training Solutions.

ITS is a member of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce.

Arenovski's firm on Friday hosted a hotel and resort expo, the first ever in the CNMI.

The first-ever 2015 Hospitality Expo was expected to showcase what CNMI businesses have to offer.

It was also a promotional vehicle to inform the public of the "depth of opportunities for business and employment in the hospitality industry."

PUBLIC NOTICE

PIC Saipan will close the **POINT BREAK** for annual maintenance starting on April 6 to April 27, 2015. We apologize for any inconvenience to our valued guests.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.



PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

"Attention Farmers"

GENERAL FARMERS MEETING

THIS IS TO INFORM ALL FARMERS THAT THE SECRETARY OF DEPARTMENT OF LANDS AND NATURAL RESOURCES MR. RICHARD B. SEMAN WILL BE HOSTING A GENERAL FARMERS MEETING FOR ELECTION OF NEW ADMINISTRATORS FOR SAIPAN AND NORTHERN ISLANDS SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT. THE TERM OF OFFICE FOR THE NEW ADMINISTRATORS IS FROM FISCAL YEAR 2015 to 2018.

THE MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THE KAGMAN DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE STATION ON TUESDAY, MARCH 31, 2015, FROM 9:00AM TO 10:00AM. ALL INTERESTED FARMERS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND THIS MEETING. FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL THIS NUMBER 256-3319 AND ASK FOR MRS. DIANA GABALDON.

COMMONWEALTH CASINO COMMISSION
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
P.O. Box 500237, Saipan, MP 96950

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to the Open Government Act, Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Governor Ralph DLG. Torres through the Commonwealth Casino Commission ("Commission"), hereby give notice that the Commission has scheduled a Special Meeting on Wednesday, April 1, 2015 at 10:00 am at the Conference room located in the first floor of the Juan A. Sablan Building on Capitol Hill, Saipan. The following agenda will be discussed:

I. PRELIMINARIES:

- A. Call to Order
- B. Roll Call
- C. Adoption of Agenda

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

III. REPORTS:

- A. Chairman's Report
- B. Executive Director's Report

IV. OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Commonwealth Casino Commission Office Lease - Update

V. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Commonwealth Casino Commission Rules & Regulations – Adoption for publication for public comments prior to formal adoption pursuant to the Administrative Procedures Act (Phil Harrison)
- B. Gaming Laboratories International. Guest from GLI Australia

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS

VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

VIII. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS

IX. ADJOURNMENT

(Note: Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a) (7) and Section 13(c), the Board may vote to meet in Executive Session.)

/s/ JUAN M. SABLÁN
Chairman

Ex-DPL employee sues for injury from bee attack

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A former employee of the Department of Public Lands has filed a lawsuit for the injuries he suffered when he allegedly accidentally hacked his arm with a machete during a bee attack on Rota. He alleges he was later advised there was no workers' compensation coverage for DPL employees who are injured on the job.

Jerry R. Villagomez is suing the CNMI government and DPL for failure to provide

workers' compensation coverage and negligence.

Villagomez, through counsel Michael W. Dotts, is suing for unspecified damages, court costs, and attorney's fees.

Saipan Tribune tried but failed to obtain comments from DPL on Thursday.

According to Dotts, Villagomez, who worked for DPL as a surveying trainee from Aug. 13, 2012, to April 29, 2013, was injured on March 4, 2013, when bees attacked him while he was clearing a jungle area on Rota for a survey.

Dotts said that DPL normally provides insect spray that surveyors use to kill or repel bees. However, DPL allegedly did not provide that insect spray to Villagomez.

While trying to swat the bees away, Villagomez allegedly hit his arm with a machete, causing serious injury. Since then, Villagomez has been experiencing numbness and severe pain on his arm and hand, Dotts said.

Villagomez filed a claim with the Workers Compensation Commission, but DPL allegedly advised him that it

does not have workers' compensation coverage available for DPL employees who are injured on the job.

As a result of the accident, Villagomez suffered pain and often had sleepless nights and days, Dotts said.

Villagomez claimed through the Office of the Attorney General for damages and as a result, he was provided with medical treatment, including surgery in Guam.

However, Dotts said, the process of going through the OAG, rather than through

WCC, caused a delay in the treatment of his injury and increased his injury.

Dotts said the government and DPL are required by law to obtain workers' compensation insurance for all its employees,

including Villagomez, for work-related injuries.

Dotts said the government and DPL breached their duty to Villagomez by failing to provide insect spray to use in the event of a bee or a wasp attack.

Tinian Mayor's Office initiates cleanup drive

» Kilili's office on Tinian also opens
» Turtle dove hunting season starts

By JAYSON CAMACHO
jayson_camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Office for two days.

This will make the services of the Congressional Office easily available on Tinian and Rota as well as on Saipan. Sablan said this has always been his goal when he first established his office on Saipan back in 2009.

For more information on the Congressional Office, contact Hofschneider at 433-2647 or email him at edward.hofschneider@mail.house.gov.

San Nicolas also said the Department of Lands and Natural Resources' Division of Fish and Wildlife has announced the start of the Philippines turtle dove hunting season.

The islandwide cleanup removed trash, abandoned cars, and other eyesores that dot Tinian's villages.

In other news, San Nicolas

said the Congressional Office

of Delegate Gregorio Kilili C.

Sablan's (Ind-MP) on Tinian is

now open.

Residents on Tinian can now access the office for help. The Congressional Office is under Edward Hofschneider, who is the Tinian field representative/caseworker of the four-time representatives to Congress.

Hofschneider began work on Tinian last week after going through orientation and training at the Saipan District

NMC



Students from last year's Summer Academy take a field trip to the Man'amko Center to meet with *man'amko* and to learn more about culture and how cultural wear like *mwar*s are made. This year's Summer Academy will be from June 29, 2015, through Aug. 7, 2015.

deadline to apply for the Summer Academy is April 30, 2015.

For more information about

the info session for parents or the Summer Academy for students, contact Hedwig Hofschneider

at 234-5498 Ext. 6784 or via email hedwig.hofschneider@marijanas.edu. (NMC)

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS



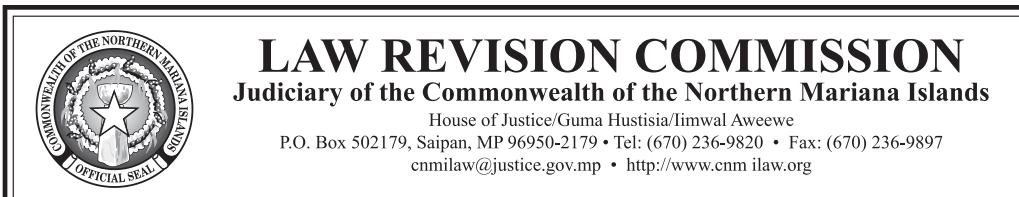
Belated happy birthday greetings to Daisy Kouka, who is shown here celebrating her special day with her NMI History 4th period class.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Happy 4th birthday Princess Vinesha Juanet LG. Aguito! Hoping this year's birthday is the very best a super 4-year-old like you can ever have! We love you to the moon and back! With lots of love from your Tutaram Fambam.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Request for Proposals RFP15-JUDICIARY-01

Print Edition of the 2015 Commonwealth Code

The Commonwealth Law Revision Commission ("LRC") is soliciting sealed proposals for a print edition of the Commonwealth Code. The Code will contain statutes of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, current through June 30, 2015.

Firms or individuals submitting proposals must be in compliance with applicable local and federal laws and regulations, including minimum wage requirements.

Proposal procedures shall comply with CNMI Procurement Regulations (NMIAC Title 70, Subchapter 30.3).

The proposal package will be available on **March 5, 2015**, at the Cashier's Window, Guma Hustisia, Saipan, or by request faxed to (670) 236-9702 or emailed to juandiego.tenorio@justice.gov.mp.

A pre-proposal meeting will be held on **March 31, 2015 at 10:30 a.m.**, local time at the Guma Hustisia Law Revision Commission Offices. Any questions or inquiries shall be directed to Mr. Michael Stanker, Executive Director, via email: michael.stanker@justice.gov.mp and shall only be answered at the mandatory preproposal meeting.

Sealed proposals must be marked **RFP15-JUDICIARY-01** and submitted in one (1) original and three (3) copies at the Cashier's Window, Guma Hustisia, Saipan no later than **April 3, 2015, local time, 10:00 a.m.** Firms or individuals submitting proposals from outside the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their proposal by submitting a Notice of Intent to Propose to the Budget and Finance Director no later than **10:00 a.m., local time, April 3, 2015**. Notices of Intent may be faxed to (670) 236-9702 or emailed to juandiego.tenorio@justice.gov.mp. For proposers located outside the CNMI, one (1) original and three (3) copies of sealed proposals must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **April 3, 2015**, AND the proposal must be received at the Office of the Budget and Finance Director no later than **April 10, 2015, close of business**.

The CNMI Government reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, or portions thereof, and waive immaterial defects if to do so would be in the best interest of the CNMI Government. All proposals received shall become the property of the CNMI Government and will not be returned to the proposer.

/s/ Alexandro C. Castro
Chief Justice

/s/ Michael A. Stanker
Executive Director, LRC

/s/ Juan Diego V. Tenorio
Procurement Officer

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Office of the Executive Director



INVITATION FOR BIDS CUC-IFB-15-005, Rev.1

W-4, W-5 AND W-6 SEWER LIFT STATION ELIMINATION

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Construction of W-4, W-5 and W-6 Sewer Lift Station Elimination in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The project is composed of a Base Bid Items and 3 Additive Bid Items. The base bid consists of construction of a new lift station to replace the existing W-5 lift station; installation of new gravity mains from existing W-4 lift station to the new W-5 lift station, installation of force main from the new W-5 lift station to the nearby gravity sewer main, thereby eliminating existing sewer lift stations; installation of Owner-Furnished Contractor-Installed (OFCI) products; construction of a new generator building and appurtenances; demolition of the W-4 generator building and appurtenances; demolition and restoration existing minor structures and restoration of existing asphalt concrete road. Additive Bid No. 1 consists of an archaeological and unexploded ordnance standby and monitoring services. Additive Bid No. 2 consists of a bar screen and appurtenances for the new W-5 lift station. Additive Bid Item No. 3 consists of the installation of new gravity sewer main and manholes from existing W-6 lift station to W-5 such that W-6 can be eliminated; demolition of the W-6 electrical building, new laterals, and the restoration of existing asphalt concrete road. The work shall be done in accordance with the Project Plans and Specifications and without disruption to the daily operation of the sewer system. CUC requires the Project to be completed in 350 calendar days from date of award of contract.

The project is funded by a grant from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of approval for project award from USEPA.

Prospective Bidders for this IFB must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The IFB package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$200.00 for one IFB package set.

A mandatory Pre-Bid Conference followed by site visits will be held on **March 27, 2015 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.10, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Five (5) copies of the bid MUST be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-IFB-005, Rev.1, W-4, W-5 and W-6 Sewer Lift Station Elimination" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on April 21, 2015**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement this form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. **Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.**

A Bid Guarantee of **fifteen percent (15%)** of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The bid guarantee may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. A Performance Bond of **one hundred percent (100%)** of the total proposal price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC. A Payment Bond of **one hundred percent (100%)** of the total proposal price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification should be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). **Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.**

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract. Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. The award of a contract may be contingent upon the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission's (CPUC) approval. If CPUC approval is required, the contract will not be executed by CUC until such approval is provided. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered bidders and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on April 2, 2015** to Mr. Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to John Riegel, Chief Engineer via email at john.riegel@cucgov.org and Nicolette Villagomez, Junior Engineer, Water & Wastewater via email nicolette.villagomez@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason and waive any defects in said bid proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

ALAN W. FLETCHER
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR



INVITATION FOR BIDS IFB15-GOV-053

Security Services for Water Task Force Warehouse

Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Governor Ralph Dlg. Torres, through the Water Task Force, are soliciting sealed Bids for Security Services for the Water Task Force Warehouse on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project Scope of Work will be available at the Office of the Director, Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, on or after March 9, 2015.

This project is funded by a grant from the Office of Insular Affairs (OIA), Department of the Interior. The award of this contract is contingent upon receipt of the project approval from OIA. The Contractor is required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal laws including the Davis Bacon Act.

A mandatory Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled for 10:00 a.m. local time, March 20, 2015, at the CNMI Water Task Force Conference Room, 1316 Anatahan Dr., Capitol Hill, Saipan.

All questions regarding this IFB must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 pm, March 19, 2015, to Mr. Pedro Sasamoto, WTF Program Manager, facsimile number (670) 664-2279.

Bids must be sealed and marked "IFB15-GOV-053". For bidders within the CNMI, one (1) original and four (4) copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 2:00 p.m. local time, April 8, 2015. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bid by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than 2:00 p.m. local time, April 8, 2015, and may be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515. For bidders located outside the CNMI, one (1) original and four (4) copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than April 8, 2015, and must be received no later than April 22, 2015. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly open and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 3:00 pm local time, April 23, 2015. However, if no Notices of Intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 3:00 pm local time on April 8, 2015.

The bid procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations. Preference is not available to local bidders in this procurement because its use is prohibited by the Federal law granting the funds for this project.

The CNMI reserves the right to reject any or all Bids and to waive any imperfections in any bid if to do so will be in the best interest of the CNMI. All Bids shall become the property of the CNMI government.

/s/ ELOY S. INOS
Governor

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director of Procurement & Supply



CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM - OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

ADDENDUM NO. 2

March 26, 2015
RFP15-GOV-038

Commonwealth Health Center North Wing Elevator 1 Project

The previously advertised, Request for Proposal ("RFP") for the "Commonwealth Health Center North Wing Elevator 1 Project" has been amended. The specific amendment is to 1) Provide additional information/clarification and 2) Extend dateline for proposal submission. The RFP shall read as follows:

Proposals must be sealed and marked "**RFP15-GOV-038, "Commonwealth Health Center North Wing Elevator 1 Project"**". For proposers within the CNMI, an original and two copies of their proposals must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 10:00 AM ChST Wednesday, April 8, 2015. Proposers located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their proposals by submitting a Notice of Intent to Propose. Notices of Intent to Propose must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than 10:00 AM ChST Wednesday, April 8, 2015, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For proposers located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of their proposals must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than Wednesday, April 8, 2015 and must be received no later than Friday, ChST, April 17, 2015. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a proposal.

All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 PM ChST Thursday, April 2, 2015 to Mr. Carl Castro, COTR, Office of the Governor, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, or faxed to (670) 664-2408. All responses to questions should be shared with other prospective contractors.

All other elements of the RFP remain as originally provided. For further information on this project, please contact the Capital Improvement Office, during working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. – Monday through Friday, except holidays) or by contacting Mr. Carl Castro, Contracting Officer Technical Representative at (670) 664-2375 or by fax at (670) 664-2408.

Opinion

Saipan Tribune

Hafa Adai!
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
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By GINA BARRECA
The Hartford Courant

Gina Barreca is an English professor at the University of Connecticut, a feminist scholar who has written eight books, and a columnist for the Hartford Courant. She can be reached through her website at <http://www.ginabarreca.com>.



Are fraternities stuck in bad old ways?

Can American college students learn that drunk and stupid is no way to go through life?

You've heard reports of recent assaults, abuse and seediness associated with Greek Life on college campuses across America, right?

You've learned about the secret posting of photographs of unconscious women by members of a frat at Penn State, and how the members of this fraternity kept the photographs in a private file accessible only to members of the house itself—oh, and its alums, so the old guys wouldn't feel left out.

(The women in the photos weren't told their lewd pictures were posted, however, so they probably felt a little left out.)

You've always been aware of the degrading hazing rituals and virulent homophobia that's been associated historically with many fraternities.

Of course it's not only men who break rules. Insider sources report that sororities are now doing a lot worse than mixing Lilly Pulitzer with L.L. Bean.

Yet can you hold a whole fraternity responsible for the behavior of a few, sick twisted individuals? If you do, are you then blaming the whole fraternity system?

You've heard this too, haven't you?

Indeed, you might have heard it so often that you can recite the lines that come next: "And if the whole fraternity system is guilty, then isn't this an indictment of our educational institutions in general? ... Isn't this an indictment of our entire American society?"

Ah, "Animal House," a paean to the year 1962, described by one of the film's writers, Chris Miller, as the "twilight of fun time in college."

The first line of this column is also adapted from "Animal House."

Ah, the celebration of toga parties, road trips to women's colleges and Donald Sutherland's inimitable portrayal of the failed-novelist-turned-English-professor who sleeps with his students.

Ah, John Belushi's call to action against the administration. Described as "psychopathic but absolutely right" by a fraternity brother, Belushi's character Bluto declares, "Nothing is over until we decide it is! Was it over when the Germans bombed Pearl Harbor? Hell, no!"

(Yes, I judge people by whether they realize they're supposed to find that line funny.)

"Animal House" was released in 1978.

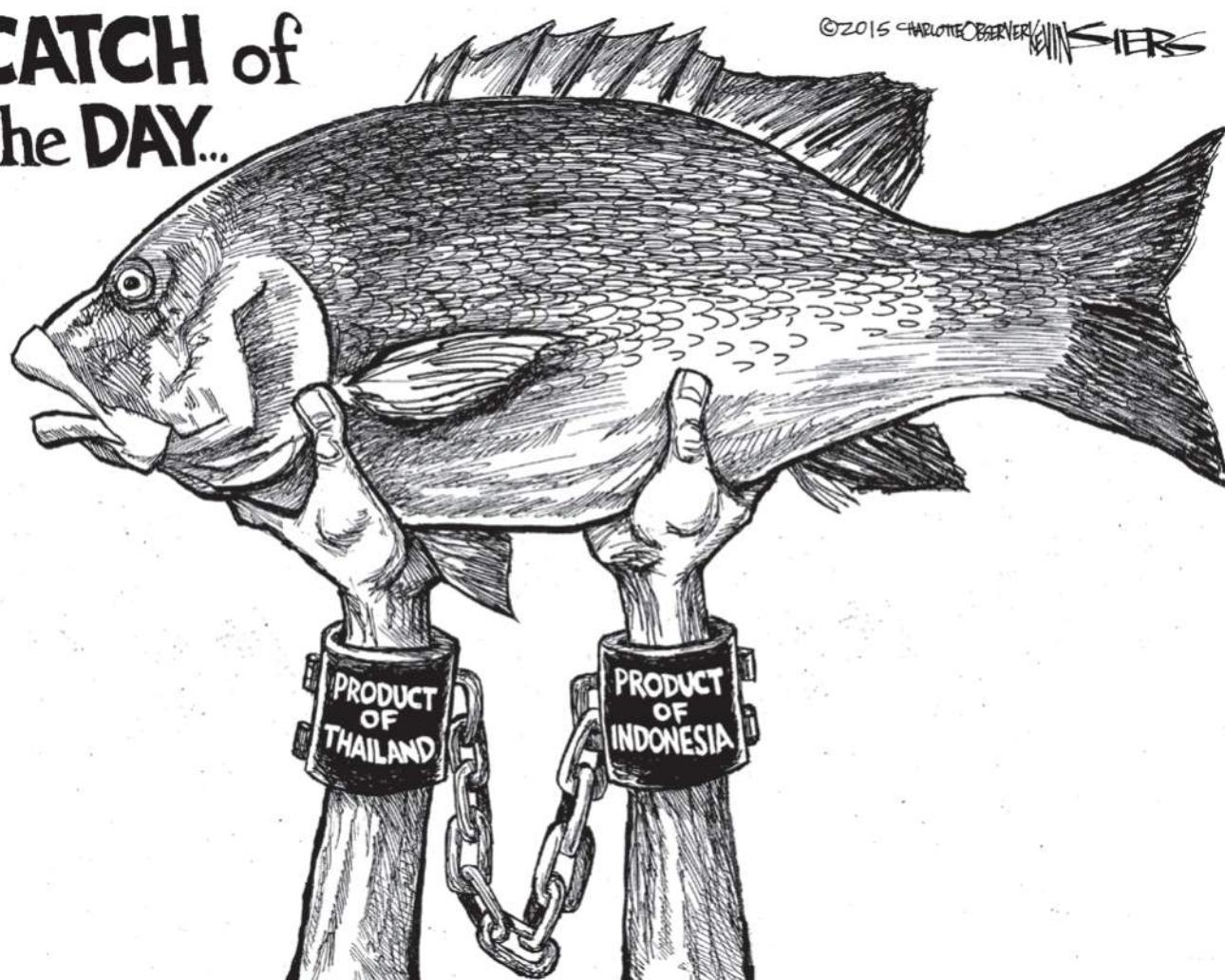
Ah, 1978, the year I finished at the very same college from which Miller graduated. To say there was large fraternity presence is to underestimate the knee-deep Greek-life culture in which Dartmouth College was steeped in the 1970s.

When I arrived on campus in the fall of 1975, one of the first things I saw were banners blaring "Co-Hogs Go Home."

I had no idea what that meant.

See FRATERNITIES on Next Page

CATCH of the DAY...



Autism

The governor declares CNMI's April Autism Awareness Month tomorrow. Among the Chinese that calls the computer "electric brain" and airplane a "flying machine," they call autism the "loneliness disease" and the "closed-self disease." The description for autism mirrors existential behavior but the relationship one takes of it as a disease to be cured is a Western curse.

When my daughter was diagnosed in the '90s, the count was at 1 for every 2,000; then when my son had the colorful PDD-NOS (pervasive developmental disorder not otherwise specified) diagnosis, it was 1 out of a 1,000. By the time I attended the World Autism Conference in Australia in 2003, it was down to 1 for every 400. When I left Saipan 2010, it was 1 for every 100. ASD at the moment is reported by Atlanta's Center for Disease Control to be prevalent in 1 out of 68 children, 5 times more common in boys than in girls.

Autism spawned boutique care providers, particularly remedial learning shops. We are in the dark on cause and cure but stuck on calling it a disease. My ex's determination to find a cure raised her anxiety level. It cost me a marriage (not a statement of fault but a declarative of just the way it was from my view). Many parents who joined PACA and STA-RPO, precursors to NMPASI-related Autism Society of the CNMI (ASCNMI), also paid dearly for the resultant imbalance and instability of marital exigencies.

SpEd at PSS tries to mainstream ASD students in the regular classrooms but without familiarity and patience with developmental disabilities (I prefer to call it "differently abled"), it is difficult for teachers to handle "aberrant" conduct of most PDD-NOS diagnosed kids who are otherwise smart and pleasant when not having a fit.

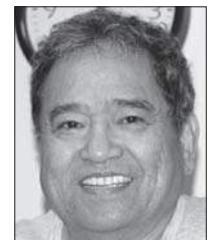
Many parents would not separate cause and cure, and dairy is a culprit many distance their kids from for gluten. More convincingly, the mercury content of vaccines, 40 times above the usual concentration for the normal human capacity to metabolize when administered together in the '90s, became a source of alarm. Though rectified, the rate of diagnosis keeps rising. Chemical input into body metabolism is a trigger point that commands widespread suspicion.

The cry from medical practitioners is the non-vaccination of children as the cause for the return of threatening plagues. I was a member of the Rotary Club once under the illusion that we can banish cerebral palsy the same way others went after malaria and TB. However, the wily germs and viruses insist that they were here first! Vaccinations are better handled when parents are informed and they make choices on the basis of guts rather than induced fears.

At the current rate of 1 diagnosis of autism for every 68 children,

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime Vergara previously taught at SVES in the CNMI. A peripatetic pedagogue, he last taught in China but makes Honolulu, Shenyang, and Saipan home. He can be reached at pinoypanda2031@aol.com.



SpEd has to be mainstreamed, i.e., teachers cease educating people *en masse* as it is not just passé but dangerous, encouraging the culture of passing tests as the goal of education. The "one and only unrepeatable quality" is true of all. Also, treating the "differently abled" as if it was a disease to be cured is a grievous mistake.

A drop in the bucket compared to DD's arsenals for mass destruction (shiploads floats not too far from our lagoon to supply a battalion of Marines for a month of everything they need), the DE budget means less \$\$\$ for PSS.

ASCNMI raises awareness. A Disability Resource Directory is for release at the governor's declaration event tomorrow. Saturday, April 11, supporters and families will drive to the Marpi Hotdog and Family Fun Day, a 1.5-mile walk from the Command Post to the turn around sign on the first hill before the fork to the Grotto. EMS will be on standby for any eventuality that requires their service. Abundant water supply will be made accessible.

The Fun turns to Games on Saturday night, May 2, at Fiesta's Hibiscus Hall where the Society's signature event takes place on Quiz Nite. At \$25 per person for the night, 50 questions in five segments of 10 are posed and answered at 6pm to 7pm, the first hour of the evening's four-hour event. ASCNMI \$15 T-shirts will be available at and for all the events. Call the NMPASI office to order your size.

I saw my daughter and son with their mother last year, the younger boy turns 20 April 6; my ex is a retired State Department officer so she is familiar with Federal and Ohio State assistance that she applies to meet her requirements.

My son is taller than I and mild-mannered, caught in his own world. His sister seems better at stepping outside of herself but not much. They objectively just call me "father," and on the unlikely prospect that they will come to China, the chance of my seeing them again in my remaining years is nil.

There are no "Happy Autism Awareness Month" greeting cards, but ASCNMI intends to make awareness of it fun!

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Attendance, dress code

As early as next week, members of the House of Representatives may have to change some of their ways when it comes to their notice of absence from sessions, the manner in which they address their colleagues during sessions, and even their dress code.

That's because an ad hoc committee chaired by House floor leader George Camacho (R-Saipan) is already done with its review of the interim Rules of Procedure for the House of Representatives.

The committee, which also includes Reps. Antonio P. Sablan (Ind-Saipan) and John Paul Sablan (R-Saipan) as members, made some changes they deemed "critical" to ensure that House members' duties and responsibilities were clarified.

Now the ad hoc committee is recommending to the full House to adopt House Resolution 19-5 in the form of House Substitute 1, which includes the changes made. The House is set to hold a session on Rota this week.

Once the House adopts HR 19-5, HS1, lawmakers will—among other things—be required to give more information to the speaker about their absence from any session. Only "written" notice of absence from sessions will be acceptable if the committee-amended resolution is adopted. At present, "verbal" notice is also acceptable. The written notice, as proposed by the ad hoc committee, shall include the "duration of the leave of absence, purpose of leave, and objective of leave."

This is a step in the right direction if this Legislature is intent on ensuring a transparent, accountable, and corruption-free government.

CNMI taxpayers have the right to know why their elected officials, in this case, House members, cannot attend sessions. If any House member will miss a session because he will be meeting with casino investors in Macau or Hong Kong, for example, the speaker and other House members need to be notified properly, in writing.

This proposed requirement should be able to complement what's already in the rules about off-island travel: "Members who travel on official legislative business shall submit a written or oral trip report to the House during the next regular session after their return. The

report shall summarize the official business activities undertaken during the trip. If no report is submitted, the cost of travel shall be deducted from the member's salary."

But then again, this has not been followed for years.

The ad hoc committee also proposes that House members refer to their fellow members as "Representative," or congressman or congresswoman, and not "Mr." or "Mrs." during sessions.

As to the dress code, the committee proposes to require that members "shall" wear business shirt and tie. At present, the rules say they "may" wear those.

The committee recommends that on Fridays, House members "may" wear "formal island wear." But what really constitutes "formal island wear?"

The committee also seeks easing the prohibition on electronic devices such as cell phones.

The ad hoc committee recommends giving the chairperson of each standing committee "the authority to create a subcommittee for any purpose that the Chairperson deems appropriate..." The chairperson may also delegate to such subcommittees such power and authority as he or she deems appropriate; "provided, however, that (1) no subcommittee shall be composed of non-committee members or fewer than two members of the Committee; (2) the authority conferred upon the subcommittee cannot exceed the overall authority of the Committee itself; and (3) the Chairperson may dissolve a subcommittee it determines to be no longer necessary."

Documents, testimonies or other evidence may be attached to committee reports as supporting documents, the committee says.

The proposed changes to the interim rules also include abolishing the standalone Committee on Education, and combine it instead with the Committee on Health and Welfare, thereby reducing the number of committees from eight to seven. That goes with the fewer number of majority members in the House now, compared to the previous Legislature.

The maximum number of members of the Committee on Natural Resources will be nine, instead of eight.

The Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations'

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Special to the Saipan Tribune



Haidee V. Eugenio covered politics, migration, environment, business and other news beats as a reporter for Saipan Tribune and other news media in the CNMI for 16 years.

membership will be only up to seven, while the Committee on Tourism will have no more than eight members.

Moreover, the committee added a line that states, "The Vice Speaker shall become Speaker upon the resignation or by death of the Speaker."

The committee reduced the number of regular sessions to be held, from six to four.

The ad hoc committee's report does not propose to shorten the 72-hour advance public notice for any regular or special House session. Here's to hoping it stays that way.

Moreover, under the proposed house rules, lawmakers still won't be subject to mandatory drug testing. Camacho himself cited the unconstitutionality of doing so, based on legal advice. Last year's bill requiring mandatory drug testing among lawmakers was vetoed by Gov. Eloy S. Inos, saying the measure may violate constitutional rights and is "vague and problematic." The House overrode the veto, but it did not gain traction at the Senate.

Kudos to the ad hoc committee for reviewing the interim House rules and recommending ways to improve it. But the House still has to adopt House Resolution 19-5, HS1 to make the House rules final.

But then again, coming up with better rules is an exercise in futility and a waste of time if the House of Representatives does not enforce them. It's been said many times, many ways that the CNMI already has good rules and laws, except that they are not being enforced.

to fund the ["ice] war." So what will lawmakers do? Are they going to let the opportunity to start a new legal industry that will bring in hundreds of millions just slip away to Guam or will they carpe diem and at least try by declaring a moratorium? The moratorium will have an immediate financial impact and we will have the revenues to fight "ice" usage and do a lot of other things. I also can't reiterate it enough that we are focusing on the wrong recreational vice by trying to stop marijuana use as "ice," alcohol, and tobacco are the most dangerous to our society. In fact, what many don't seem to realize or know about the use of vices for recreational use is that the use of "ice" and alcohol will automatically decline if marijuana were legalized. What better way to pay for fighting a war on real drugs that are destroying lives and even killing people than to use the funding from the sales of a natural growing herb (marijuana)—the preferred recreational vice of our young adults and even the future!

8 more states set to legalize

Just as I predicted, the marijuana reform is moving at a blazing speed across America with more and more states realizing that 1. Marijuana is badly needed for medical purposes 2. The reality we can never eradicate the growth and use of marijuana. 3. The reality that millions of people in the mainland and in the CNMI are smoking pot everyday but only a selected and even targeted few are being held accountable to the law. 4. The reality that marijuana is a billion-dollar industry that will bring money into the state. 5. The fact that marijuana is the least toxic and least addictive of all the recreational drugs (alcohol, heroin, cocaine, tobacco, Ecstasy, meth or ice). 6. The fact that children did not go crazy in states that have already legalized it. 7. The fact that we are wasting money and resources fighting the wrong battle against marijuana that could be used to fight the more deadly vices and crimes that are being perpetrated in our society. Like the President said, "We have far more important and deadly things to worry about than marijuana sales and use." The President smoked but still became President!

The potential new states are New York, California, Florida, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, New Mexico for a total of 32, which will create a clear majority of states where some form of legalization exist. Our nation's federal marijuana laws are literally going up in smoke! Prosperity is right around the corner but will our leaders take us in the right direction?

Ambrose M Bennett

Kagman, Saipan

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Updates on marijuana legalization

Besides the bill in the U.S. Senate to make medical marijuana legal everywhere, there are six marijuana bills in the U.S. House of Representatives. All of these bills fail to solve the single most important problem—collecting taxes—as there was a lot of uncontrollable cheating in Colorado and Washington! FYI readers, the inability of the government to apply and collect taxes on marijuana is at the very core of the reasons for marijuana being illegal, not the effects of marijuana. Taxes are still a challenge, which is why it is important that the CNMI have a government operation in partnership with the private sector to address the tax issue and control challenges—the research-based theory for implementing a moratorium to study legalization before a vote, which will be the best methodology for legalization in America.

What our leaders and citizens need to realize is this industry is going to boom with or without us, so do we really want to be left behind Guam and the rest of America again? Analysts are already predicting the legal U.S. marijuana industry is "in its early growth stage." It has been predicted that the American marijuana market could eventually reach the size of its alcohol market, a \$200 billion annual business;

FRATERNITIES

From Page 11

I did not come from a family that knew enough about summering on Block Island to make mollusk jokes with misogynist overtones. I came from a family that didn't use any season as verb. My family "wintered" where we "summered" and we didn't "fall," because who'd pick us up? (OK, it's true that the word "spring" was used as verb, but it was employed only in the past tense as in: "Joey was sprung from Dannemora on Tuesday. Go buy cutlets.")

Anyway, back in Hanover, N.H., other banners saying "Better Dead Than Co-ed" were hanging from houses on a street referred to as "Frat Row." Those I understood: I was in the third class of women admitted to the college as matriculated students.

In that respect, "Animal House's" Faber College was actually

more advanced than the Ivy League school I attended insofar as it was fully coeducational.

The Interfraternity Council, a national organization, insists: "We are committed to ensuring that fraternities continue to operate as organizations that make college communities better for all students." Many college administrators, including Dartmouth's president Philip Hanlon, who's a member of Dartmouth's class of '77, are hoping to change the Greek system without dismantling it entirely. This might be possible, but—like the old joke about how many psychiatrists it takes to change a light bulb—it has to want to change. Hanlon was a member of the same fraternity as Chris Miller, so perhaps there is recognition that the whole fraternity system is an indictment of our educational institutions and perhaps of America itself.

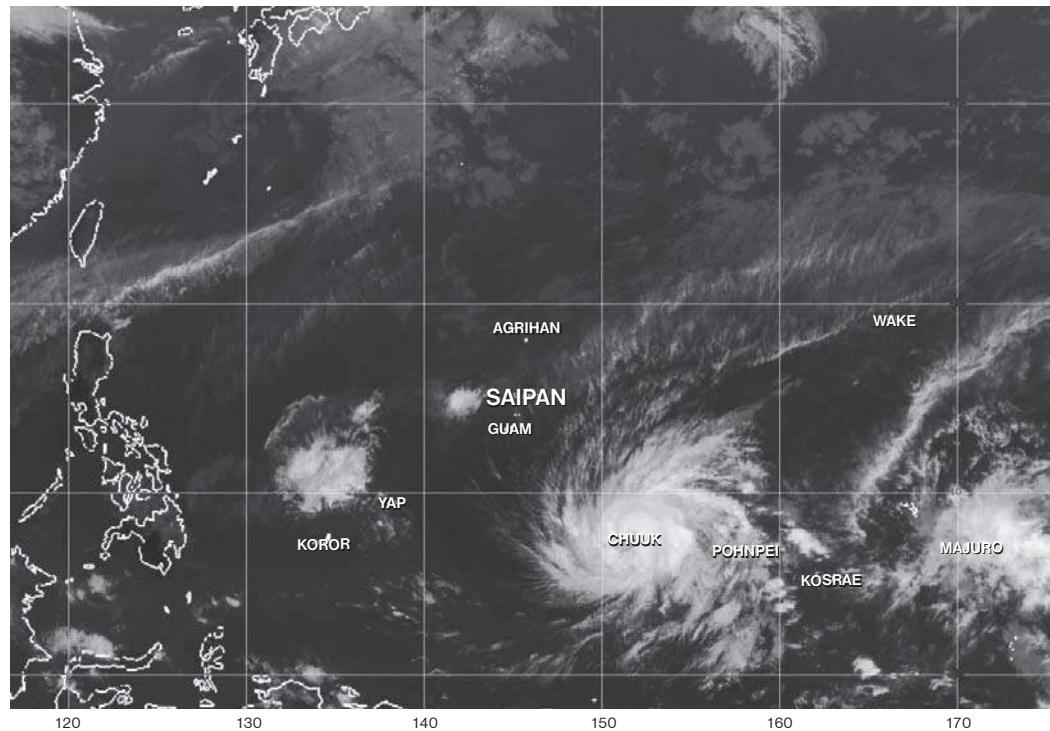
Pretending everything is fine on college campuses—or in any American community—when it isn't is no way to go through life.

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

| TODAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY |
|---|--|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| | | | | |
| Partly sunny and breezy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 25 mph. | Mostly cloudy and breezy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. East winds 15 to 25 mph. | Partly cloudy with isolated showers. | Partly cloudy with isolated showers. | Partly cloudy with isolated showers. |
| ▲ 86° ▼ 74° | ▲ 85° ▼ 74° | ▲ 86° ▼ 74° | ▲ 86° ▼ 74° | ▲ 86° ▼ 74° |

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, SUNDAY, MARCH 29, 2015

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Typhoon Maysak (04W) is centered very close to Chuuk at 7N151E with maximum sustained winds of 80 mph and moving toward west at 12 mph. Heavy rain and scattered thunderstorms are between 5N and 10N from 148E to 155E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are between 10N and 12N from 150E to 160E and between 10N and 1N from 155E to 160E. For more information on Typhoon Maysak, see warnings issued by the Joint Typhoon Warning center under WMO header WTPN31 PGTW and advisories issued by the National Weather Service under WMO header WTPQ31 PGUM. A tropical disturbance over the Marshall Islands is producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms within 175 miles of a line from 9N171E to 5N180. A shear line stretches southwestward from 20N180 just south of Wake Island to about 15N150E. Cloudiness and patchy showers are along and up to 500 miles northwest of the shear line. Converging trade winds are triggering scattered showers and a few thunderstorms west of Rota within 50 miles of 15N142E and just west of Yap and north of Koror within 100 miles of 11N135E.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

Micronesia

| | | |
|---------------|---------------|-----------|
| Guam And Rota | Thunderstorms | ▲ 85 ▼ 77 |
| Palau | Thunderstorms | ▲ 88 ▼ 77 |
| Yap | Partly Cloudy | ▲ 86 ▼ 78 |
| Chuuk | Thunderstorms | ▲ 86 ▼ 79 |
| Pohnpei | Thunderstorms | ▲ 86 ▼ 78 |
| Kosrae | Thunderstorms | ▲ 85 ▼ 79 |
| Majuro | Thunderstorms | ▲ 84 ▼ 80 |

Around the Globe

| | | |
|----------------|---------------|-----------|
| Auckland | Partly Cloudy | ▲ 73 ▼ 58 |
| Beijing | Showers | ▲ 54 ▼ 42 |
| Hong Kong | Partly Cloudy | ▲ 77 ▼ 69 |
| Honolulu | Mostly Sunny | ▲ 83 ▼ 70 |
| London | Showers | ▲ 58 ▼ 52 |
| Los Angeles | Sunny | ▲ 82 ▼ 60 |
| Manila | Mostly Sunny | ▲ 92 ▼ 74 |
| Melbourne | Sunny | ▲ 84 ▼ 62 |
| Miami | Mostly Sunny | ▲ 80 ▼ 65 |
| New York | Partly Cloudy | ▲ 59 ▼ 38 |
| Osaka | Partly Cloudy | ▲ 71 ▼ 54 |
| Paris | Showers | ▲ 58 ▼ 53 |
| Pusan | Showers | ▲ 65 ▼ 52 |
| Rome | Partly Cloudy | ▲ 67 ▼ 51 |
| Salem | Partly Cloudy | ▲ 68 ▼ 46 |
| San Francisco | Mostly Sunny | ▲ 71 ▼ 53 |
| Seoul | Partly Cloudy | ▲ 67 ▼ 49 |
| Tokyo | Sunny | ▲ 71 ▼ 55 |
| Washington, DC | Partly Cloudy | ▲ 64 ▼ 39 |

Tides

| | | | |
|----------|-------|------------|----------|
| 6:14 AM | Today | High Tide: | 1.7 Feet |
| 12:02 PM | Today | Low Tide: | 1.0 Feet |
| 5:04 PM | Today | High Tide: | 1.5 Feet |

Sunrise/Sunset

| | | |
|-----------|---------|---------|
| Today | 6:15 AM | 6:29 PM |
| Tuesday | 6:14 AM | 6:30 PM |
| Wednesday | 6:14 AM | 6:30 PM |
| Thursday | 6:13 AM | 6:30 PM |
| Friday | 6:12 AM | 6:30 PM |

Moonrise/Moonset

| | | |
|-----------|---------|---------|
| Today | 2:25 PM | 2:32 AM |
| Tuesday | 3:13 PM | 3:14 AM |
| Wednesday | 4:00 PM | 3:54 AM |
| Thursday | 4:46 PM | 4:33 AM |
| Friday | 5:33 PM | 5:11 AM |

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NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
 ■ Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
 ■ *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
 ■ Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JANUARY 5, 2015

| DEPARTURES | | | | ARRIVALS | | | |
|------------------------------|---------|----------|------------------|------------------------------|---------|----------|------------------|
| SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM) | | | | GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN | | | |
| UA5070 | 4:15am | 5:05am | Daily | UA5069 | 2:45am | 3:35am | Daily |
| UA5068 | 8:00am | 8:50am | 3 | UA5071 | 6:40am | 7:30am | 3 |
| UA5068 | 8:40am | 9:30am | 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 | UA5071 | 7:15am | 8:05am | 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 |
| UA5039 | 2:20pm | 4:00pm | 6, 7 via Rota | UA5039 | 1:00pm | 1:50pm | 6, 7 |
| UA5078 | 3:10pm | 4:00pm | 1, 5 | UA5038 | 1:10pm | 2:40pm | 2, 4 via Rota |
| UA5038 | 3:10pm | 4:00pm | 2, 4 | UA5077 | 1:50pm | 2:40pm | 1, 5 |
| UA5040 | 6:55pm | 7:45pm | 1, 5 | UA5041 | 5:35pm | 6:25pm | 1, 5 |
| UA5078 | 8:35pm | 9:25pm | 2, 3, 4, 6, 7 | UA5077 | 7:15pm | 8:05pm | 2, 3, 4, 6, 7 |
| UA5044 | 10:40pm | 11:30pm | 1, 5 | UA5043 | 9:20pm | 10:10pm | 1, 5 |
| SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP) | | | | GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP) | | | |
| UA5039 | 2:20pm | 2:55pm | 6, 7 | UA5038 | 1:00pm | 1:35pm | 2, 4 |
| ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM) | | | | ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN | | | |
| UA5039 | 3:25pm | 4:00pm | 6, 7 | UA5038 | 2:05pm | 2:40pm | 2, 4 |
| SAIPAN-PALAU (ROR) | | | | PALAU (ROR)-SAIPAN | | | |
| DL287 | 6:05am | 1:10am+1 | 2, 6 via NRT | DL298 | 4:35am | 3:00pm | 3, 7 via NRT |
| SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT) | | | | NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN | | | |
| DL287 | 6:05am | 8:40am | 1, 2, 4, 5, 6 | DL298 | 10:25am | 3:00pm | Daily |
| DL297 | 4:20pm | 7:05pm | Daily | DL288 | 8:55pm | 1:25am+1 | 1, 3, 4, 5, 7 |
| SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN) | | | | SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN | | | |
| OZ606 | 2:10am | 6:00am | 1 | OZ603 | 9:00am | 2:20pm | Daily |
| OZ606 | 2:40am | 6:30am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 | 7C 3402 | 10:10am | 3:30pm | Daily |
| OZ6063 | 3:20am | 7:10am | 3, 4, 6, 7 | OZ605 | 7:40pm | 1:00am+1 | 7 |
| OZ604 | 3:20pm | 7:10pm | Daily | OZ605 | 8:10pm | 1:30am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 |
| 7C 3401 | 4:30pm | 8:20pm | Daily | OZ6053 | 8:50pm | 2:10am+1 | 2, 3, 5, 6 |
| SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS) | | | | BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN | | | |
| OZ608 | 3:10am | 6:20am | 4, 7 | OZ607 | 9:00pm | 1:50am+1 | 3, 6 |
| SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG) | | | | SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN | | | |
| 3U8648 | 6:00am | 8:35am | 1, 4, 5, 7 | 3U8647 | 10:30pm | 4:30am+1 | 3, 4, 6, 7 |
| SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK) | | | | | | | |

Ballet of the Stars 2015

PHOTOS BY JAYSON CAMACHO



Local young ballet talents make their opening performance for *Swan Lake*.



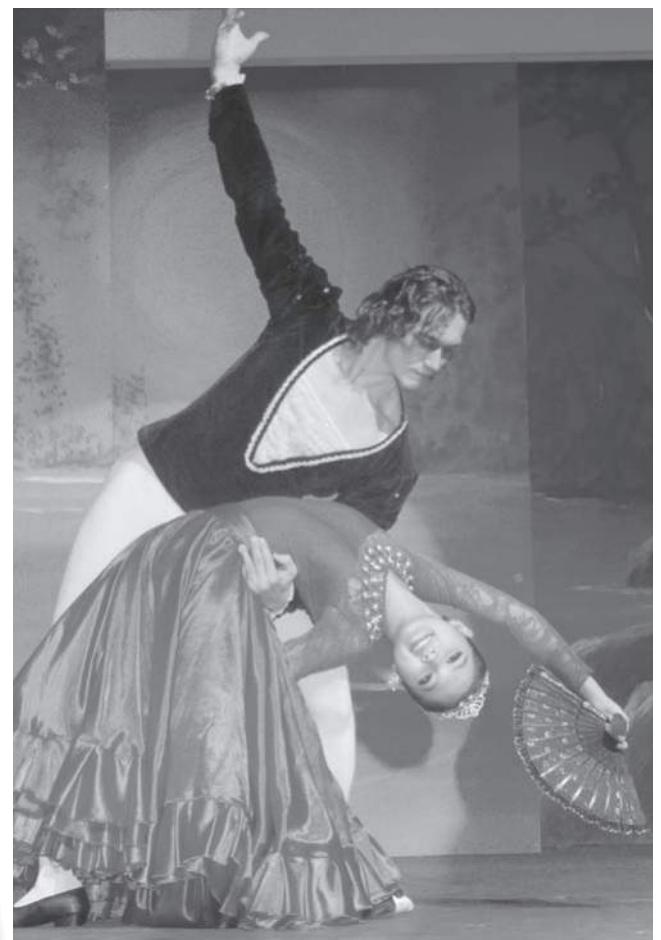
The little ballet butterflies come in during scene 2 after prince Siegfried enters the woods.



Alexey Nasadovich and Margarita Rudina in scene 2 of *Swan Lake*.



Local talents from Glushko Academy's group C perform what is called a Russian dance.



Nasadovich and Cerrin Hwang perform a Spanish dance.



Eva Nasadovich performs a Hungarian dance.



Sakura Imaya and Cerinn Hwang as "big swans" in a scene from *Swan Lake*.



Local talents Fay Sizemore, Cevina Hwang, Annabelle Sablan (not in picture) perform the Neapolitan dance during *Swan Lake*.

2015 Hospitality Expo

Photos by JAYSON CAMACHO



A customer asks one of IT&E's representatives about their products and services.



Fiesta Resort and Spa employees, front row, left to right, Grace Matutino and Lulu Thomson; back row, left to right, Lupe Flores and Remy Rebollon.



Pacific Islands Club food and beverage director Steve Balakrishna, left, Sports, Entertainment, and Activities director Glenn Policare, center, and training manager Evan Hunsberger, right.



Lao Lao Bay Golf and Resort human resource manager Mary Lou Ada and resort staff during the hospitality expo.



Best Sunshine human resource manager Carmen Fernandez, left, and executive assistant Brenna Villagomez during the hospitality expo.



Club C's Joseph Roberto, left, Anita Go, center, and Jessie Xua during the hospitality expo.



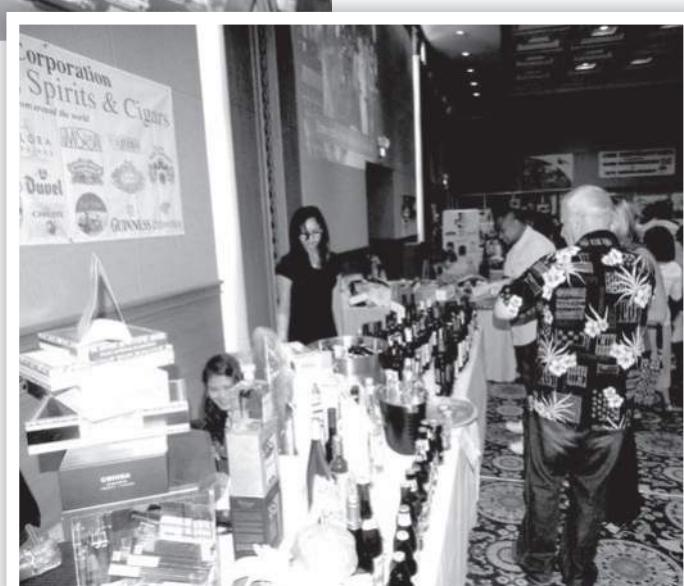
MarPac sales manager James Lee, far left, poses with MarPac staff during the hospitality expo.



Saipan World Resort's Minnie Cabrera and Jocelyn Cabrera during the hospitality expo.



Herman's Bakery employees prepare cookies and baked goods.



BFJ Corp. showcase wine, spirits, and cigars during the hospitality expo.



Pacific Trading Co.'s Berta Camacho and another employee during the hospitality expo.



Saipan Ice and Water Co. marketing director Regina Morishige and president Andrew Morishige.



Let's Go representative Becky Tenorio, seated, attends to resident participating in the hospitality expo.



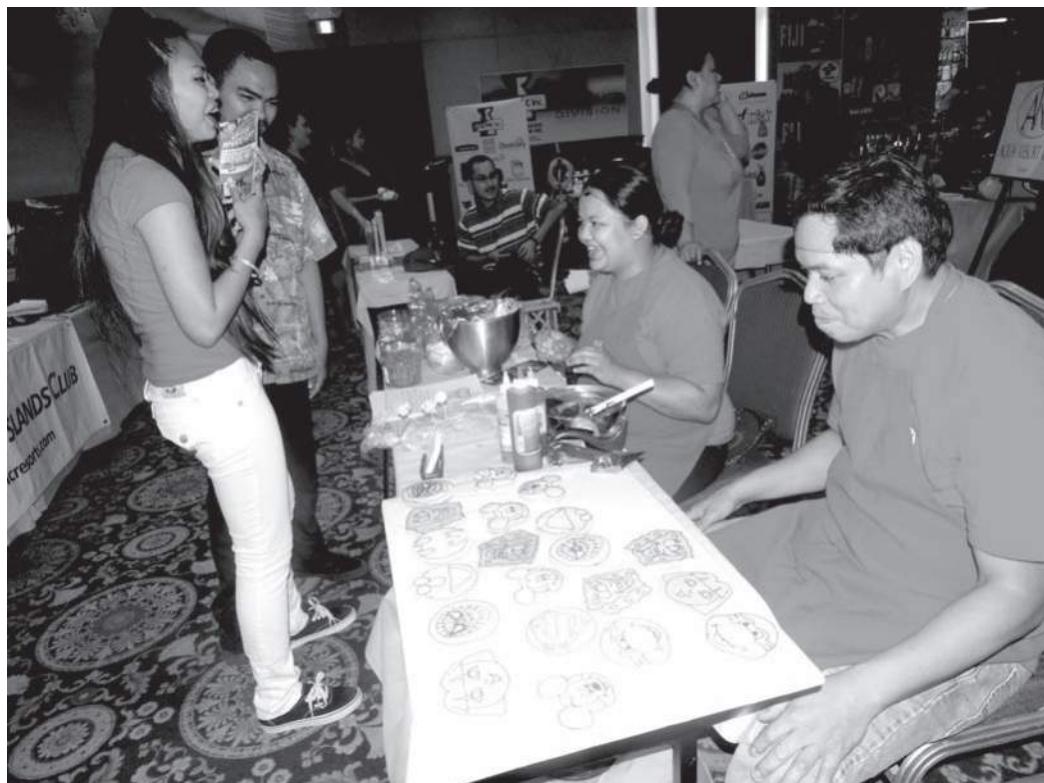
Coca Cola staff join operations manager Rusty Loyola, center.



Samcorp Imports and Wholesale's Ric Lee.



Hyatt Regency Saipan staff and management.



Herman's Bakery attends to customers during a sampling of their baked goods.



MarPac prepares samples of both alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages.

ISLAND APPAREL

Micronesia's Largest Screenprinting & Embroidery Service

Island Apparel employees and owner Ed Calvo, center.



Triple J Wholesale employees Esther Yamson Spa, Marah Lambon, second from left, one other staff, Alex Camacho, and Jay Santos.

STEM fair draws 120 participants

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

About 120 young science and technology whizzes competed in last Saturday's islandwide STEM Fair competition, aiming for a chance to compete in Guam or Philadelphia.

Maria Theresa Dizon, a Marianas

High School senior, was the overall winner for grades 9 to 12. She will showcase her project, "Inhibiting Box Jellyfish Cell Discharge," or inhibiting stinging effects of jellyfish in the Philadelphia competition.

She tested several chemicals, like baking soda or vinegar, on nematocysts to see their potential effects. She

learned that seawater, not vinegar, a popular cure for stings in Australia, did not trigger the nematocysts to fire.

"I am super excited. I did not think I'd win at all. I'd just like to thank all my mentors, my family, and God," Dizon told *Saipan Tribune*.

Overall winner for grades six to eight was Jonah Pohl, from Marianas



Third place overall winner Rianna Camacho, from Rota, stands with her mom and public school officials after winning in the grade K to 2 cluster for her "Attractive Homemade Mosquito" science project.



Namiko Calvo, from Rota, was an overall winner for her project, titled: "What building design can withstand an earthquake?"



Maria Theresa Dizon won overall winner for high school. She smiles for a photo with her PSS mentors and officials.



John Pohl was the overall winner for grades 6 to 8 for his "Hydro Car."



Mount Carmel School's Hitomi Rosa Sasamoto, with her father Derek, is awarded second place for "Density Tower II" project at the STEM fair last week.



Namiko Calvo was one of two Sinapalo Elementary School students who won overall for their grade clusters.

Baptist Academy, for his "Hydro Car." Namiko Calvo, from Sinapalo Elementary, won for grades 3 to 5, for her project that tested how designs could withstand earthquakes. Rianna Barcina, also from Sinapalo, won for K-2, for her homemade mosquito trap.

These winners earn a trip to the 37th annual STEM Fair in Guam.

First-place winners for high school, middle school, grades 3 to 5, and kindergarten to grade 2 were Won Ju Kim from MBA, Trixia Litulumar from Oleai Elementary School, Amber Nicole Mendiola from SES, and Elizabeth Babauta from Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary school, respectively.

Second place winners were Cleo Cuizon for high school, Loraine Lubeng for middle school, Kylian Cabrera for grade 6 to 8, and Hitomi Rosa Sasamoto for K to grade 2.

Jun Li from MHS won third place. Nicole Kim from Hopwood won third place for grades 6 to 8. Hyeonbin Jong from Saipan Community School won third place for grades 3 to 5. John Anthony Tobongbanau won third place for grades K to 2.

The inaugural Viewer's Choice award went to Annejenette Jewel Cubangbang.

Private and public schools all over the CNMI competed.

Over 72 judges made up of members from the public selected the winners.



John Pohl represented Marianas Baptist Academy.



Maria Theresa Dizon gave a shoutout to her partners and mentors in the Step-Up program, where she worked on her project last summer.

Business

Crash victim's father calls for more focus on pilots' welfare

SISTERON, France (AP)—The father of one of the victims of this week's plane crash in the French Alps called Saturday for airlines to take greater care over pilots' welfare.

Prosecutors say they believe German co-pilot Andreas Lubitz deliberately slammed the Germanwings aircraft into a mountain, and that he hid an illness from his employers—including a sick note for the day of the crash.

"I believe the airlines should be more transparent and our finest pilots looked after properly," said Philip Bramley, from Hull in northern England. "We put our lives and our children's lives in their hands."

His 28-year-old son, Paul Bramley, was one of 150 people killed in Tuesday's disaster.

Speaking near the site of the crash, Philip Bramley said Lu-

bizt's motive was irrelevant. "What is relevant, is that it should never happen again; my son and everyone on that plane should not be forgotten, ever," he said.

Germanwings, the Lufthansa subsidiary that Lubitz joined in 2013, declined Saturday to comment when asked whether the company was aware of any health problems he might have had. But it said he had passed all required medical check-ups.

Aviation experts say those checks are stringent, but focus mainly on physical health. A pilot's mental state is usually only assessed once, before companies decide whether to admit them to a training program—and even then a determined person could hide a latent problem.

"The test that will get you into a Lufthansa flight training program is a very hard test and this

is why most people who get into those pilot classes will train for those tests," said David Hasse, the editor-in-chief of German aviation website airliners.de.

"There are coaching facilities, companies that are specialized in training people on how to pass those tests, and they will also advise you on how to behave in the psychological tests."

Lufthansa said pilots are required to pass an annual medical test overseen by the German Federal Aviation Office, but the company itself doesn't perform checks on its staff and relies on them to report any problems.

German prosecutors, who have been trying to determine what caused Lubitz to take such a devastating decision, met with their French counterparts Saturday to discuss the preliminary findings of their investigation.

Dairy farms asked to consider breeding no-horn cows

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP)—Food manufacturers and restaurants are taking the dairy industry by the horns on an animal welfare issue that's long bothered activists but is little known to consumers: the painful removal of budding horn tissue from calves so farm workers or other animals don't get gored later.

It's routine to remove the horn tissue from young calves before it attaches to the skull, either by burning it out with heat or chemicals or digging it out with sharp instruments. While veterinary groups recommend pain treatment, only about 10 percent of calves are properly medicated, according to Vermont dairy cattle breeder Mark Rodgers.

Certain cows carry a domi-

nant no-horn genetic trait, and are called polled cows. Research has shown it's cheaper to breed polled cattle than to dehorn cows, but experts say the dairy industry has been slow to expand polled genetics because it's been focused on boosting milk productivity. Yet, the change may come sooner than producers expected, as some of the nation's largest food companies, such as General Mills, Nestle and Dunkin' Brands, are asking dairy suppliers to incorporate polled cattle into their herds.

The beef industry already has largely adopted polled cattle. Less than 1 percent of the nation's dairy herds carry the hornless polled gene, but 10 times more polled animals have

been registered with breeding programs in the past three years, Rodgers said.

"It's an animal well-being issue but it's also a management issue. It's a labor-saving issue. Ask anyone working on a dairy farm and they'll tell you the most disagreeable job on those farms is dehorning calves," said Rodgers, who belongs to an international group of 46 polled breeders, including farmers in Australia, Canada, England and Germany.

But Chris Galen, a spokesman for the National Milk Producers Federation, a trade group, said the industry believes removing horn buds at a very young age is safe and "minimally disruptive, uncomfortable process."

Boston area expects a flood of claims after record winter

BOSTON (AP)—After the Big Dig-out, it's time for the Big Pay-out. Or will it be the Big Denial?

New England's epic winter is on pace to produce a corresponding number of claims as thousands of homeowners seek to repair damage. Successive storms dumped 110 inches of snowfall in Boston alone, a record for an entire season.

"It's a part-time job just to navigate it all," says Cathy Schwarz, a Plymouth resident who is working with her insurer and repair companies after rooftop ice dams caused leaks in her house. "Everybody says you'll get through this, but all I can see is a house that's just not livable right now."

The winter was so unusually severe that governors across the six-state region have requested or are in the process of requesting federal disaster relief to help state and local governments pay for snow removal and other

costs. The requests, however, would not cover home or private property damage.

Local insurance agents and public adjusters—firms that help homeowners navigate the claim process—say they've been swamped with inquiries.

They urge homeowners to be patient. A high volume of claims means insurance companies will need more time to process and finalize payments.

Homeowners might also run into trouble securing contractors to do repair work because of high demand.

"It's going to seem like the winter that does not want to end," says Marc Baron, a partner at the New England Adjustment Company in Massachusetts. "This work is going to go on well into the summer."

Some property owners are already bracing for paying costs out of pocket.

"I'm sure I'll have to put some money up," says Daniel Alperin, a homeowner in Newton who is working with his insurance company after ice dams damaged at least four rooms in his house. "Obviously their job is to protect their interests, so it's a negotiating game, like anything else."

Others remain hopeful. "We're hoping we hear positively from our insurance company and that the majority is covered," says the Rev. Patricia Miller Fernandes at Worcester's Epworth United Methodist Church, which suffered roof damage that could cost hundreds of thousands of dollars.

"That's why we pay them every year, after all."

Schwarz, the Plymouth homeowner, says she's moving ahead with repair work while she awaits the final verdict from her insurer.

Nation

Pence: Effort to 'clarify' religious objections law underway

INDIANAPOLIS (AP)—

Indiana Gov. Mike Pence said he would support legislation to "clarify the intent" of a new state law that has attracted widespread criticism over concerns it could allow discrimination against gay people.

In an interview Saturday with the Indianapolis Star (<http://indy.st/1MhuY1d>), the Republican governor said he's been in discussions with legislative leaders this weekend. He expects that a clarification bill will be introduced this coming week to the religious objections law he signed Thursday. Pence declined to provide details but told the newspaper that making gay and lesbian Indiana residents a protected legal class is "not on my agenda."

Pence disputes that the law allows state-sanctioned anti-gay discrimination, as well as on social media with the hashtag #boycottindiana. Local officials and business groups around the state hope to stem the fallout, although consumer review service An-



Thousands of opponents of Indiana Senate Bill 101, the Religious Freedom Restoration Act, gathered on the lawn of the Indiana State House to rally against that legislation Saturday, March 28, 2015.

been directed at our state."

Since Republican Gov. Mike Pence signed the bill into law Thursday, Indiana has been widely criticized by businesses and organizations around the nation, as well as on social media with the hashtag #boycottindiana. Local officials and business groups around the state hope to stem the fallout, although consumer review service An-

gie's List said Saturday that it is suspending a planned expansion in Indianapolis because of the new law.

Meanwhile, hundreds of people, some carrying signs reading "no hate in our state," gathered Saturday outside the Indiana Statehouse for a boisterous rally against a new state law that opponents say could sanction discrimination against gay people.

Painstaking search continues after NYC blast, but hope dims

NEW YORK (AP)—Searching with hands and dogs through scoops of rubble from three apartment buildings leveled in an apparent gas explosion, emergency workers painstakingly looked for signs of two missing people Saturday, though authorities acknowledged the chances were slim.

Meanwhile, investigators worked to piece together exactly what caused the blast Thursday that injured 22 people in Manhattan's East Village. More than seven months earlier, utility workers discovered that the gas line to a restaurant in one of the destroyed buildings had

been tapped, creating a "hazardous situation," according to Consolidated Edison.

On Aug. 6, a meter reader at the restaurant detected the smell of gas and reported it, utility spokesman Allan Drury said. A gas crew was dispatched to the site and found multiple leaks in a gas line that had been tapped, said Drury, who added that the restaurant was the only customer in the building authorized to receive gas.

The discovery led Con Edison to shut down gas service to the building for about 10 days while the building owner made repairs. Gas service was restored after the utility deemed it safe, Drury said.

City officials suspect that leaking natural gas was the source of Thursday's explosion and fire, which sparked a raging blaze that took hundreds of firefighters to quell. De Blasio visited a firehouse Saturday to thank some of them.

Officials estimated it could take a week of 24-hour-a-day work to sift through the heap of loose brick, wood and debris.

"It's going to be slow and arduous," Fire Commissioner Daniel Nigro said Saturday. Emergency workers were using heavy machinery to dig out rubble and place it in the street, where each scoop is examined manually and sniffed by dogs, he said.

ACROSS THE NATION

7 shot and injured at Florida spring break house party

PANAMA CITY BEACH, Fla. (AP)—Seven people were injured, some critically, during an early-morning spray of gunfire Saturday at a spring break party on the Florida Panhandle, police said. An Alabama man was quickly apprehended and charged with attempted murder. Multiple 911 calls flooded in just before 1 a.m., reporting the shootings at the house party in Panama City Beach, and deputies found a sprawling crime scene with victims inside the home, outside and across the street from it, and in the street's median, the Bay County Sheriff's Office

said. Officers set up a perimeter and found a suspect matching witnesses' description. David Jamichael Daniels, 22, of Mobile, Alabama, was charged with seven counts of attempted murder and jailed awaiting a first court appearance. A .40-caliber handgun believed to have been used was found in the yard of a nearby home.

Decorated Boston cop in coma after being shot in face

BOSTON (AP)—A decorated Boston police officer remained in a medically induced coma Saturday, a night after he was shot in the face by a man with several gun convictions during a traffic stop that ended when

other officers fatally shot his attacker, the city's police commissioner said. Officer John Moynihan, 34, was struck just below his right eye, and the bullet remains lodged below his right ear, Commissioner William Evans said. He was listed in critical condition, Evans said Moynihan is undergoing tests and is being monitored for bleeding in his brain. "We are hoping and praying there's not further damage," Evans said. "He's a fighter. I am sure he's going to pull through," the commissioner said. Moynihan and five other gang task force members, traveling in two cars, stopped a car Friday night in the city's Roxbury neighborhood after reports of shots fired, Evans said.

Asia

About 4K fishermen stranded on remote Indonesian islands

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP)—The number of foreign fishermen stranded on several remote eastern Indonesian islands has spiraled to 4,000, including some revealed in an Associated Press investigation to have been enslaved.

Many are migrant workers abandoned by their boat captains after the government passed a moratorium on foreign fishing five months ago, according to the International Organization for Migration, which released the figure Friday. However, others have been trapped on the islands for years, after being dumped by fishing boats or escaping into the jungle.

"This is the worst moment in our life right now," one former slave told the AP, which is not releasing the names of the men for their safety. "It is even worse than being in hell. We have to work every day to sur-

vive ... There is no hope for us anymore."

The AP reported earlier this week that slaves—some of them beaten and locked in cages—are forced to fish, and their catch ends up in the supply chains of American supermarkets and restaurants. The migration agency said Friday that the report follows several years of close work with Indonesian authorities to rescue hundreds of fisherman identified as victims of trafficking.

Many of the stranded are men from Myanmar who went to neighboring Thailand in search of work. They were taken by boat to Indonesia, which has some of the world's richest fishing grounds. Others left behind on the islands are Cambodian and a few from the poorer parts of Thailand.

Steve Hamilton, IOM's deputy chief of mission in Indone-

sia, said for every man they've already rescued, many more now need help. With the fishing ban, boats have docked or fled, ditching their crews.

"It is reasonable to expect many are victims of trafficking, if not outright slavery," he said.

"But for the first time in possibly several years, their feet are touching dry land and there is a real possibility for them to go home, once we and the authorities locate and process them," he said.

About a quarter of the men are in Benjina, a town that straddles two islands in the Maluku chain, according to an Indonesian official who recently visited the area. These men, some abandoned five, 10, even 20 years ago, load and unload fish off boats for food and pocket money, or cut and sell logs in the forest of surrounding areas.

Singapore bids farewell to Lee Kuan Yew in elaborate funeral

SINGAPORE (AP)—Tens of thousands of Singaporeans undeterred by heavy rains lined a 15 kilometer (9 mile) route through the Southeast Asian city-state to witness an elaborate funeral procession Sunday for longtime leader Lee Kuan Yew.

Lee's coffin, protected from the downpour by a glass casing, lay atop a ceremonial gun carriage led solemnly past city landmarks from parliament to a cultural center where the state funeral will be held. Walking slowly in the coffin's wake as it exited parliament were Lee's son, the current prime minister Lee Hsien Loong, other family members and government officials.

Crowds of people that began forming not long after dawn for the early afternoon funeral cor-

tege chanted "Lee Kuan Yew," snapped photos with smartphones held aloft and waved Singapore's flag. Four howitzers fired a 21-gun salute, air force fighter jets streaked over the island, with one peeling off in a "missing man" formation, and navy patrol ships blasted horns.

During a week of national mourning that began Monday after Lee's death at age 91, some 450,000 people queued for hours for a glimpse of the statesman's coffin at Parliament House. A million people visited tribute sites at community centers around the city.

The expansive show of emotion is a rare event for Singapore and its 5.5 million people. The island nation about four times the size of Washington D.C. is known around the world as a

wealthy trade and finance center with a strict social order including a ban on chewing gum and caning for some crimes.

Lee was Singapore's prime minister for more than three decades, ruling with an iron grip until 1990, and is regarded by Singaporeans as the architect of their nation's prosperity and harmonious race relations. But his authoritarian rule has also left a legacy of restrictions on free speech, a tame media and a stunted democracy.

"He did everything for us Singaporeans regardless of race, language or religion," said Jennie Yeo, a 58-year-old teacher, who arrived at 7 a.m. to stake out front row positions with two friends. "Education, housing, everything you can think of, he's taken care of for us," she said.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Sri Lankan president's brother dies in axe attack

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka (AP)—Sri Lankan President Maithripala Sirisena's youngest brother has died two days after he was attacked with an axe in what authorities say was a personal dispute. According to a government statement, 42-year-old Priyantha Sirisena died in a private hospital in Colombo on Saturday. He was airlifted there from his hometown of Polonnaruwa in North-Central province following the attack on Thursday. The attacker has surrendered to police. The statement did not say what the dispute was about. Sirisena was in China on a four-day official visit when the attack took place.

Pakistan says soldiers kill 15 militants near Afghan border

ISLAMABAD (AP)—Pakistan's military says its soldiers have killed at least 15 militants in a northwestern tribal region bordering Afghanistan. An army statement says three soldiers were wounded in Saturday's battle in the Tirah valley of the Khyber region. It says ground forces launched the attack after spotting a group of militants there. The information could not be immediately corroborated. Pakistan bars journalists from working in its tribal regions. Pakistan is trying to clear its tribal regions of militants, who use the mountainous area to launch attacks on security forces in both countries.

Chinese drywall company pays \$3.2 million to 7 homeowners

NEW ORLEANS (AP)—Attorneys say a Chinese drywall manufacturer—Taishan Gypsum Co. Ltd.—has paid a \$3.2 million judgment to the owners of seven homes damaged by the product. A news release from attorneys representing homeowners said a damages trial has been set for April 28 on behalf of 4,000 others whose properties suffered similar damages from the same defective Taishan drywall. Friday's announcement comes after a long legal fight in which Taishan had unsuccessfully argued U.S. courts have no jurisdiction over the company.

World

Struggle to explain co-pilot's actions

LONDON (AP)—A disgruntled worker shoots up a workplace. A student opens fire at a high school. A pilot crashes a planeload of people into a mountainside.

There may never be a convincing explanation for such devastating acts of violence, but experts say certain personality disorders such as extreme narcissism can help push people who want to take their own lives to take those of others at the same time.

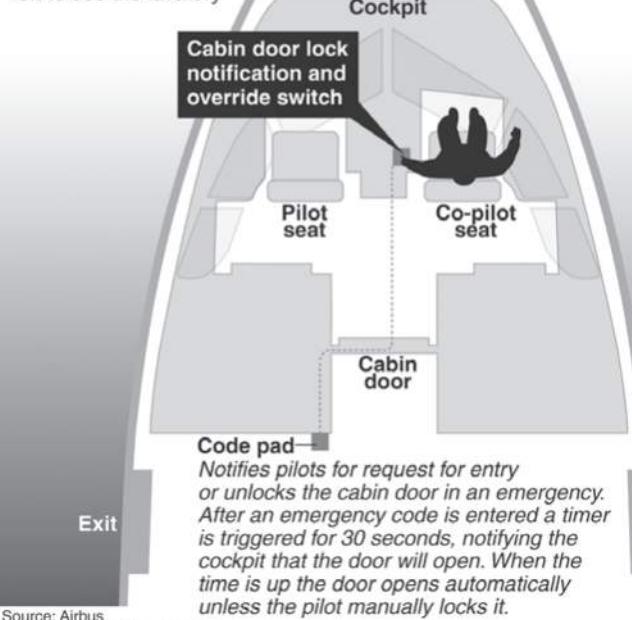
But as German prosecutors search for what might have motivated co-pilot Andreas Lubitz to deliberately smash the Germanwings plane carrying 149 other people into the French Alps, many experts caution against speculating on a diagnosis.

"We don't have a clue what was going through his mind," said Dr. Simon Wessely, of the Institute of Psychiatry at King's College London. "Even if we had all of his medical records and had conducted interviews with him, it would probably still be impossible to explain such an inexplicable act."

Ripped-up sick notes from a doctor found at Lubitz's home by German prosecutors suggest the 27-year-old had an illness he hid from his employers at Germanwings. Medical documents showed he had an existing illness—which wasn't specified—but no suicide note was

How pilot was locked out

The black box recordings of the downed Germanwings Airbus revealed that the co-pilot barricaded himself in the cockpit and crashed the plane after the pilot left to use the lavatory



found. A Dusseldorf hospital confirmed Friday that Lubitz had been treated recently, but didn't say for what.

Neighbors of Lubitz were shocked at allegations he could have deliberately smashed the plane and said he had seemed thrilled with his job at Germanwings. They described a man whose physical health was excellent and records show Lubitz took part in several long-distance runs. Germanwings said he had passed all required medical check-ups.

Some experts said it was possible that people who commit such horrific acts of violence might be suffering from mental illnesses like narcissism or psychosis.

Dr. Raj Persaud, a fellow of Britain's Royal College of Psychiatrists, says that in cases of mass murder, people sometimes suffer from personality disorders that make them extremely self-centered. He and others were speaking generally and had no personal knowledge of the Lubitz case.

Boko Haram kills 41, prevents hundreds voting in Nigeria

ABUJA, Nigeria (AP)—Boko Haram extremists killed 41 people, including a legislator, and scared hundreds of people from polling stations in the northeast, but millions voted across Nigeria Saturday in the most closely contested presidential race in the nation's history.

In electoral violence elsewhere, three people including a soldier were shot and killed in political thuggery in southern

Rivers state, and two car bombs exploded at polling stations in the southeast but no one was injured, according to police.

All the Boko Haram attacks took place in northeastern Nigeria, where the military Friday announced it had cleared the Islamic extremists from all major centers, including the headquarters of their so-called Islamic caliphate.

Nearly 60 million people have cards to vote, and for the

first time there is a possibility that a challenger can defeat a sitting president in the high-stakes contest to govern Africa's richest and most populous nation.

The front-runners among 14 candidates are President Goodluck Jonathan, a 57-year-old Christian from the south, and former military dictator Muhammadu Buhari, 72, from the predominantly Muslim north.

Saudi Arabia says strikes push Yemen rebels out of air bases

SANA'A, Yemen (AP)—A Saudi-led airstrike campaign targeting Shiite rebels who control much of Yemen has pushed them out of contested air bases and destroyed any jet fighter remaining in the Arab world's poorest country, the kingdom has said.

Saudi Brig. Gen. Ahmed bin Hasan Asiri said the airstrike campaign, now entering its fourth day Sunday, continued to target Scud missiles in Yemen, leaving most of their launching pads "devastated," according to remarks carried by the state-run Saudi Press Agency.

However, he warned Saturday that the Shiite rebels, known as Houthis, could control more of the missiles. His account could not be immediately corroborated.

The Houthis began their offensive in September, seizing the capital, Sanaa, and later holding embattled President Abed Rabbo Mansour Hadi under house arrest. The rebels later took over government in Yemen and ultimately forced Hadi to flee the country in recent days.

A Saudi-led coalition of some 10 countries began bombing Yemen on Thursday, saying

it was targeting the Houthis and their allies, which include forces loyal to Yemen's former leader, Ali Abdullah Saleh.

On Saturday, Hadi directly accused Iran of being behind the Houthi offensive as leaders at an Arab summit considered creating a military reaction force in the Mideast, raising the specter of a regional conflict pitting Sunni Arab nations against Shiite power Iran. Iran and the Houthis deny that Tehran arms the rebel movement, though the Islamic Republic has provided humanitarian and other aid.

Health & Fitness

White House unveils plan to fight antibiotic-resistant germs

WASHINGTON (AP)—The White House on Friday announced a five-year plan to fight the threat posed by antibiotic-resistant bacteria amid fears that once-treatable germs could become deadly.

Repeated exposure to antibiotics can lead germs to become resistant to the drugs, so that they are no longer effective. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that drug-resistant bacteria cause 23,000 deaths and 2 million illnesses each year in the United States.

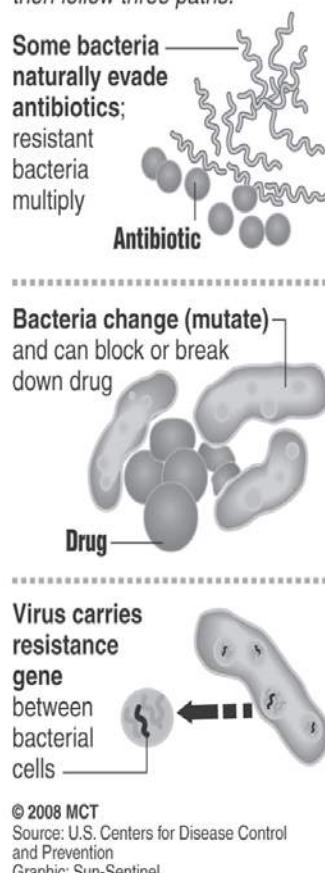
The World Health Organization said last year that bacteria resistant to antibiotics have spread to every part of the world and might lead to a future where minor infections like strep throat could kill. Antibiotic resistance also threatens animal health, agriculture and the economy.

President Barack Obama, who ordered the plan, said drug-resistant bacteria are one of the most serious public health issues.

"This is one of those problems that doesn't always rise to the top of people's day-to-day concerns until somebody in the family is impacted," Obama told reporters before

Drug-resistant bacteria

Antibiotic overuse sets the stage; the process by which bacteria become resistant to drugs can then follow three paths:



meeting privately Friday with members of his advisory council on science and technology. "We take antibiotics for granted for a lot of illnesses that can be deadly or debilitating."

"If we start seeing those medicines diminish in effectiveness, we're going to have problems," he said.

The White House's overall goal is to prevent and contain outbreaks of infections at home and abroad. It's aiming to maintain the ability of current antibiotics to

fight illnesses and develop new treatments.

The plan is the result of an order Obama signed in September forming a task force on the issue. Obama also has asked Congress to nearly double its funding to fight antibiotic resistance to \$1.2 billion.

Critics said the White House needs to go further, particularly in terms of the antibiotics used in animals processed for meat. The Food and Drug Administration has already

successfully encouraged many drug companies to phase out the use of antibiotics used for animal growth promotion. But advocacy groups have called on the agency to limit other uses of animal antibiotics as well, such as for disease prevention when holding animals in crowded conditions.

"Once again, the administration has fallen woefully short of taking meaningful action to curb the overuse of antibiotics in healthy food animals," said New York Democratic Rep.

Louise Slaughter, a microbiologist who has sponsored legislation to stop routine antibiotic use in animal farming.

"With 80 percent of the antibiotics produced in the United States being used in agriculture mostly for prevention, any meaningful solution to the looming antibiotic resistance crisis must begin with limits on the farm—and trusting a voluntary policy that lets industry police itself will not bring about real change," she said.

Why drug names are so increasingly weird

By ELLEN JEAN HIRST

CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Naming a brand drug is a lot harder than it used to be.

With thousands of drugs on the market, the No. 1 reason drug names are rejected by the Food and Drug Administration is that the agency doesn't want names to be too similar when prescriptions are filled, said Brannon Cashion, global president of branding firm Addison Whitney.

The concern is that the prescribed drug will be confused with another, which could cause serious medical problems or even death. "Letters get transposed, letters get confused," Cashion said. "The pharmacist is often scrolling down an alphabetized list."

Proposed drug names also can't elicit an air of superiority. Superbeststatin, for instance, would be a no-go with

the FDA.

And names should avoid eliciting any cultural confusion or sensitivity around the world. Remember the Chevy Nova? Didn't do so well in Latin America ("no va" in Spanish means "no go").

Drug names have to be memorable, too, yet easy enough for doctors to spell, Cashion said.

Can you remember and spell Avycaz, Farydak, and Prezcobix?

And the names have to "punch."

Take Zarxio, a drug that helps prevent infection during cancer treatments: "The name has a very positive, fast, strong sound," Cashion said. "It's punchy."

Zarxio this month became the first biosimilar drug to gain approval in the U.S. As a result, a lot was riding on the name, Cashion said. Biosimilars are copycats of high-tech

biologic drugs.

"If you think about biosimilars, one of the biggest issues they're facing is are you actually similar, are you the same?" Cashion said. "If the name would have been soft or obtuse or difficult, especially as the first approved, it would not have been something that people would have latched on to. This name has this sort of invitation where people are like 'Wow.'"

Zarxio also illustrates how a drug can wear a different name elsewhere. Zarxio is marketed as Zarzio outside the U.S. And AbbVie's recently FDA-approved Parkinson's drug named Duopa is named Duodopa outside the U.S.

Cashion said it's increasingly difficult to get a global drug name approved.

"Sometimes it's one letter that can make a name legally not viable or risky," Cashion said. "They may approve a

name in Europe, but then by the time it's approved by the FDA, there's an issue. It might be a conflict with a product only marketed in the U.S. and isn't an issue in Europe."

Before drugs get their brand names—or "sexy" names, as Stephanie Shubat, director of the United States Adopted Names council calls them—they receive more syllable-heavy generic names.

Shubat said there are more than 10,000 generic drug names on the books. Names selected are based on stems that allude to their scientific roots—drugs that end in statin, for instance, are used to lower cholesterol.

"There could be several trade names (brand names) for one particular drug," Shubat said, "but there's only one nonproprietary name." That's why we live in a world with Avycaz instead of ceftazidime-avibactam.

FDA to scrutinize unproven alternative remedies

WASHINGTON (AP)—Federal officials plan to review the safety and evidence behind alternative remedies like Zicam and Cold-Eeze, products that are protected by federal law, but not accepted by mainstream medicine.

The Food and Drug Administration says that it will hold a two-day meeting next month on regulations for homeopathic medicines, which have long occupied a place on the fringes of U.S. health care. Similar to dietary supplements, homeopathic products are not required to prove they are safe or effective before being sold on the market. But unlike supplements, homeopathic medicines state that they are designed to treat specific medical conditions.

According to a federal notice published online Thursday, the FDA will ask attendees whether there is data to "better assess the risks and

benefits" of homeopathic medicines. Regulators also have questions about the appropriateness of selling some homeopathic drugs without a prescription. Regulators said that many of the medical indications listed on homeopathic drugs "have never been considered for over-the-counter use under a formal regulatory process."

Homeopathic products have grown into a multibillion-dollar U.S. market since the FDA last reviewed its oversight of the products 25 years ago, the agency notes.

Zicam and hundreds of other homeopathic remedies are often sold alongside over-the-counter drugs like Tylenol and aspirin at pharmacies across the U.S. But homeopathic medicine is based on a principle unverified by mainstream science: that substances that create certain symptoms in healthy people

are effective in treating the disease that causes the same symptoms.

A key principle of traditional homeopathy holds that the more diluted a remedy is, the better it works. Today, many remedies marketed as homeopathic contain heavily diluted drug ingredients, vitamins or minerals. For instance, Zicam contains a heavily diluted dose of zinc as its "active ingredient."

In 1938, Congress passed a law granting homeopathic remedies the same legal status as regular pharmaceuticals. The law's principal author was Sen. Royal Copeland of New York, a trained homeopath. And that law has remained in force ever since.

Many scientists view homeopathic remedies as modern snake oil—ineffective but mostly harmless because the drugs in them are present in such tiny amounts. Accord-

ing to the National Institutes of Health, most research has concluded that "there is little evidence to support homeopathy as an effective treatment for any specific conditions."

In the early 1970s, Congress directed the FDA to review the safety and effectiveness of all drug ingredients used in over-the-counter medicines. But the agency delayed reviewing homeopathic products "due to the uniqueness of homeopathic medicine," according to the federal notice. "To date, FDA has not reviewed this class of products for safety and efficacy."

No votes or formal recommendations are planned for the FDA meeting, scheduled for April 20 and 21. The FDA plans to take comments and input from the public, including industry officials, health practitioners and consumers.

Healthy Living

More than tears

Strong-tasting onions are high in chemicals called flavonoids that are potent antioxidants and may inhibit the growth of liver and cancer cells.

Best cancer fighters

- Green onions, spring onions
- Shallots
- Yellow onions
- Red onions

Source: Cornell University, U.S. National Library of Medicine



Life & Style

Jolie delivers empowerment message at Kids' Choice Awards

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The traditional green slime flowed at the Kids' Choice Awards, but it was Angelina Jolie's message of empowerment for youngsters that stuck.

Jolie, who has sought to inspire women with public candor about her own health, said that "different is good" as she accepted the favorite villain award Saturday for her movie role as the title character in "Maleficent."

When she was young, Jolie said, "I was told I was different. And I felt out of place: too loud, too full of fire, never good at sitting still, never good at fitting in."

"When someone tells you that you are different, smile and hold your head up and be proud," she said, then added with a wink, "cause a little

trouble. It's good for you."

The actress and filmmaker, who disclosed earlier this week that she had undergone additional surgery aimed at preventing cancer, received excited hugs from daughters Shiloh and Zahara when her name was announced.

Other winners at the Nickelodeon channel's fan-voted awards included Emma Stone, who largely escaped its trademark slime when she accepted the best actress award for her role in "The Amazing Spider-Man 2," and favorite family TV show "Modern Family," whose stars including Jesse Tyler Ferguson didn't get away clean.

Nick Jonas hosted the ceremony, which also honored the group Fifth Harmony as favorite new artist and Liam Hemsworth and Jennifer Law-



Angelina Jolie accepts the award for favorite villain for "Maleficent" at Nickelodeon's 28th annual Kids' Choice Awards at The Forum on Saturday, March 28, 2015, in Inglewood, Calif. AP

then asked, jokingly, "What's next? Fourth Harmony? 3 Seconds of Summer? No, no. The Jonas Brother?"

One Direction didn't appear to accept its trophy as favorite music group.

Others taking part in the ceremony included Jamie Foxx, Meghan Trainor, Chris Rock, Kaley Cuoco-Sweeting, Kevin James and Little League Baseball sensation Mo'ne Davis.

Jolie, writing in the New York Times on Tuesday, revealed that she had her ovaries and fallopian tubes removed in hopes of reducing her risk of cancer.

Two years ago, she disclosed that she carries a defective breast cancer gene that puts her at high risk of developing breast and ovarian cancer. Her mother died of ovarian cancer, and her maternal grandmother also had ovarian cancer—strong evidence of an inherited, genetic risk that led Jolie to have her healthy breasts removed to try to avoid the same fate.

Schwarzenegger's back for high-octane 'Terminator: Genisys'

LOS ANGELES (AP)—As promised, the Terminator and the man who originated the steely machine—Arnold Schwarzenegger—are back this summer for another go in "Terminator: Genisys," and Paramount Pictures, eager for a blockbuster, has already fired up a machine of its own—the publicity kind.

With four films, over \$1 billion in box office receipts, and a jumbled time-travel mythology, "Terminator: Genisys" is taking the elements of James Cameron's 1984 original and twisting them a bit to create an entirely new timeline.

Getting a jump on a summer that's chock full of franchise fare, including continuations of "The Avengers" and "Jurassic Park," Paramount has undertak-

en an early publicity campaign, including the recent showcasing of a few minutes of action-packed footage from "Terminator: Genisys."

Then, Schwarzenegger and other key cast members attended a press event earlier this week on the Paramount lot—all to help generate early buzz for what the studio hopes will be a bona fide blockbuster.

Paramount is on a major push to restore its once robust production prowess. Although its franchises, including "Transformers" and "Mission: Impossible," have been successful, the studio has lagged behind its Hollywood counterparts in recent years.

Seated on a massive couch next to his three new co-stars, Schwarzenegger seemed glad

to be back. "I watched all the movies again to really get up to speed with the character," he said.

The film opens in a familiar spot—2029, when the war against the all-powerful artificial intelligence system Skynet is raging. Resistance leader John Connor (Jason Clarke) once again sends soldier Kyle Reese (Jai Courtney) back to 1984 to save his mother, Sarah Connor (Emilia Clarke), from being killed by a Terminator. But this time, things are different. Sarah has her own protector: An aged Terminator who has raised her since childhood.

"We're really harking back to James Cameron's original characters that were in one and two and we're taking it from there," said Emilia Clarke.

rence of "The Hunger Games: Mockingjay Part 1" as favorite action stars. The film was voted favorite movie.

Jonas won as favorite male singer but also ended up drenched in the ceremony's trademark green slime, as did Josh Gad ("Frozen," Broadway's "Book of Mormon"), who got slimed by co-presenter Adam Sandler.

Performers included Iggy Azalea with Jennifer Hudson and 5 Seconds of Summer, which ended up taking a goo hit.

Jonas opened the ceremony by noting that One Direction was minus a group member with the exit of Zayn Malik.

"A tough week. ... Lot of girls in the house tonight still struggling after One Direction became Two Direction," he said,

End of 'Mad Men,' but show's relics find new life at museum

WASHINGTON (AP)—Don Draper is making his exit with "Mad Men" this year, but his image as a 1960s advertising man will live on at the Smithsonian Institution.

Jon Hamm, who plays Draper on the AMC drama about a New York ad agency, joined cast members and show creator Matthew Weiner at the National Museum of American History on Friday to donate costumes, props, sketches and a script from the show. The collection includes Draper's trademark gray suit and fedora.

"Mad Men's" final season begins April 5.

STAR OF THE SHOW—AND THE MUSEUM

A crush of cameras surrounded Hamm at the museum as he smiled and posed with his suit from the show—the trademark of the "Mad Men" costumes. But he took no questions. Hamm recently completed treatment for alcohol addiction and has asked for privacy, through his publicist.

REAL-LIFE RELICS

Curators at the Smithsonian were particularly interested in "Mad Men's" real 1960s-period relics, from cigarette cartons and liquor bottles to shaving kits and tooth brushes that were used in the show, along with costumes that were recreated



"Mad Men" cast member Jon Hamm who played Donald Draper, poses beside Don's charcoal grey suit and some objects from the TV series, "Mad Men" that were donated to the National Museum of American History, Friday, March 27, 2015, in Washington. AP

for the period. Some objects, including Draper's suit, will be featured in an exhibit on American culture slated for 2018.

Entertainment Curator Dwight Blocker Bowers said "Mad Men" producers did the best research he's ever seen for a TV show, with meticulous detail to create the look of a 1960s ad agency.

LOOKING AHEAD

Weiner, the show's creator, said he was thrilled that objects from the show might one day be seen during a school field trip at the Smithsonian.

"What I love about these objects being here is that these are

for the most actual objects; they are not recreation," he said. "This is the archaeological site of humanity from this period. We're glad that we saved these things."

'ALL GOOD THINGS'

AMC President Charlie Collier said "Mad Men" perfectly re-created the 1960s, and he said the show's creators were honored that Draper's suit would join Dorothy's ruby slippers from "The Wizard of Oz" and other objects from entertainment history at the museum.

"You know, they say that all good things must come to an end, and all great things come to the Smithsonian," he said.



In this Sunday, March 22, 2015 photo, Jason Clarke, from left, Emilia Clarke, Jai Courtney, and Arnold Schwarzenegger pose for a portrait during press day for "Terminator Genisys" at The London Hotel in Los Angeles.

Zayn Malik says he worries he's let fans down by leaving 1D

LONDON (AP)—Zayn Malik says he worries that he's let One Direction fans down by leaving the world-conquering boy band, but couldn't carry on in a role that made him unhappy.

Malik quit the group this week, saying he wanted "to be a normal 22-year-old." He had earlier pulled out of One Direction's world tour, citing stress.

He told Friday's edition of Britain's Sun newspaper that "I did try to do something that I wasn't happy doing for a while" to keep fans happy.

"I only ever tried to do it for the fans, and it was only ever for them," he said.

He said he felt upset that "I may have let them down in some sort of way."

"It's not that I've turned my back on them or anything, it's just that I can't do that anymore because it's not real to me," he said.

And he said his bandmates had been "really supportive" of his decision.

One Direction formed in 2010 after five teenagers—

Harry Styles, Liam Payne, Niall Horan, Louis Tomlinson and Malik—auditioned individually for the British TV talent show

"The X Factor." Simon Cowell had the idea of putting them together as a boy band.

They didn't win the competi-

tion, but they went on to top charts and win young hearts around the world.

The four remaining members say they will carry on as One Direction.

"They still want to do it for a while," Malik said. "I think they're going to be cool."



In this May 24, 2014 file photo, Zayn Malik of boy band One Direction sings during a performance, in Glasgow, Scotland. AP

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

New Matt Damon film shooting in Massachusetts

MANCHESTER-BY-THE-SEA, Mass. (AP)—Lights, camera, action: Manchester-by-the-Sea is the backdrop for a new Matt Damon movie of the same name. Damon is producing the independent film with the working title "Manchester-by-the-Sea." Scenes are being shot in the Massachusetts town as well as in nearby Beverly, Gloucester and Salem. The Salem News reports the movie tells the story of the working-class Chandler family. Casey Affleck plays Lee Chandler, who gains legal guardianship of his nephew following the sudden death of his brother. Filming got underway in the coastal

communities north of Boston last week and is expected to run into April.

Michelle Obama declares 'Black Girls Rock!'

NEWARK, N.J. (AP)—Michelle Obama mixed her message of education for girls with one of empowerment for black women, declaring "Black girls rock!" at the annual awards show of the same name. The first lady wasn't one of the honorees Saturday night but was the most heralded participant at the 5th annual event. It honored Jada Pinkett Smith, Erykah Badu, Cicely Tyson, Ava DuVernay, Nadia Lopez and Heline Gayle. Obama told the audience, which included many

young black girls, to ignore voices that suggested that they were "not good enough." She celebrated the achievement of three young black women also honored and said education was the key to their success. Obama went to Princeton and Harvard. She said she wouldn't be where she was had she not taken her studies seriously and implored young black people to do the same.

Actress Drea de Matteo loses apartment in NYC blast

NEW YORK (AP)—Among those who lost their homes in the powerful blast and fire in Manhattan's East Village was former "Sopranos" actress Drea de Matteo. The actress took to Instagram Thursday

to share two dramatic photos of firefighters battling smoke and flames. "A hole where my NYC home of the last 22 years once stood," she wrote in one caption. "RIP 123 2nd Avenue." The photos appeared to be taken from a rooftop across the street. The explosion at 123 Second Avenue caused the collapse of three five-story buildings and damage to a fourth, which was seven stories tall. The Red Cross says the buildings had about 50 apartments. The 43-year-old de Matteo, who has two children, played a mob girl friend-turned-FBI informant on "The Sopranos." She also appeared on "Joey," "Desperate Housewives" and "Sons of Anarchy."

Wife who doesn't enjoy sex got bad wedding day advice

DEAR ABBY: I've been married more than 20 years and have three children. What I haven't had is a real desire for sex—nor have I ever had, as far as I know, an orgasm. Before my wedding, my mother warned me that sex was overblown, uncomfortable and messy, but she said I had to put up with it if I wanted kids and a good marriage.

Movies, TV shows and ED ads all suggest that "normal" women are just looking for the next opportunity to jump into bed with their man. Am I a freak? Are there others like me? What do I tell MY girls as they grow up?

WAITING IN WICHITA

DEAR WAITING: Your mother did you no favor by saying what she did about sex. Sex can be "messy," but it is also supposed to be pleasurable, and both parties should be able to enjoy it. If sex is painful, then something is wrong.

I would never label you a freak. However, you may be asexual, because some people are. If you have never experienced an orgasm, you may have married a man who was also sexually inexperienced.

It's a mistake to judge what sex is supposed to be like from media and/or advertising. People pitching products can be notoriously unreliable, and some television shows and movies

strive for shock value. Your gynecologist would be a far more reliable information resource.

As to what to tell your daughters, there are many books on the subject, and your gynecologist may be able to recommend some literature. But please do not give your daughters the same message your mother gave to you, because it was wrong.

DEAR ABBY: I have two daughters, "Mary Beth," 48, and "Anne," 50, who do not talk to each other. The last time we were all together was a family vacation in 2010. They live in different states, and I travel to visit them for the holidays. They have similar lifestyles—married, children, work outside the home -- but they don't reach out to each other.

When Mary Beth wrote her feelings to Anne, they were viewed as hurtful and vindictive. I received a copy of the letter, but I didn't think they were. That was two years ago, and Anne never sent a reply. She said, "Oh, Mom, I don't know what to write. Can you help?"

Frankly, I think Anne prefers the lack of contact with her sister, and that even though they are sisters there is no bond between them. What do you suggest? The silence is unbearable. I want to hear the "noise" again.

DISAPPOINTED MOM IN RENO

Romania questions ex-minister over 3 Picassos, 100 paintings

BUCHAREST, Romania

(AP)—Romanian prosecutors investigating an alleged bribery scheme have questioned the former finance minister about the origins of 100 paintings, including three works by Pablo Picasso

Prosecutors questioned Darius Valcov on Friday, saying the paintings had been hidden by four of his friends. The works have been sent to art experts for evaluation. Valcov, under house arrest since Thursday, declined to comment.

Among the paintings are works by Romanian painters Cornelius Baba and Nicolae Grigorescu as well as sketches by Picasso and works by Renoir and Andy Warhol. Prosecutors said

some of the artworks had been purchased for him by an art dealer at two Bucharest auction houses.

Prosecutors said Valcov was an art collector who wanted to conceal the origin of money dishonestly gained.

Valcov resigned March 15 after prosecutors charged him with taking 2 million euros (\$2.1 million) in bribes when he was the mayor of a small town in exchange for awarding contracts to a local businessman.

Valcov hid a Renoir painting, three kilograms (6.6 pounds) of gold and stashes of cash worth \$410,000 in a friend's safe from 2011, prosecutors said. He was mayor of Slatina from 2004 to 2012.

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

DEAR DISAPPOINTED MOM: Nowhere in your letter did you mention how Mary Beth feels about the fact that her letter may have caused an estrangement. As an adult, Anne should have responded to that letter. It isn't unusual in families that are geographically separated for sibling bonds to loosen. Work, marriage and children can be profoundly distracting.

I'm advising you to continue to see both daughters, but not involve yourself in their relationship. I'm not sure what kind of "noise" you're looking for, but if you poke into this, it could be an explosion.

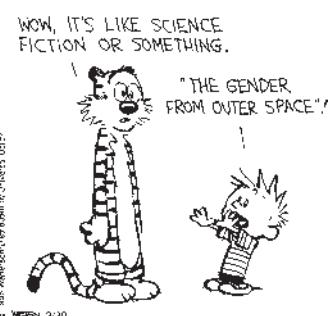
Good advice for everyone—teens to seniors—is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes



By Bill Waterson



Garfield®

By Jim Davis



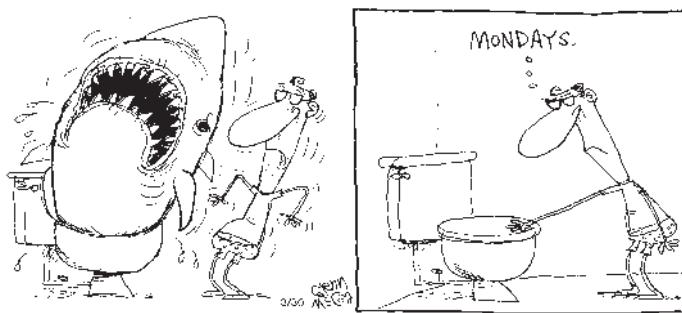
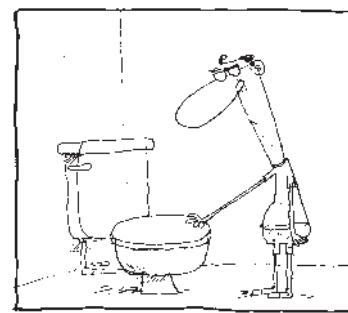
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By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

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Friday's answer 3-30

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Katy Mixon, 34; Celine Dion, 47; Eric Clapton, 70; Warren Beatty, 78.

Happy Birthday: You can accomplish anything you set your mind to this year if you are dedicated and focused. Don't let anyone lead you astray. This year is about investing in your skills and your future, not someone else's. Self-improvement and bringing greater satisfaction and happiness into your life will set the stage for years to come. Your numbers are 8, 12, 15, 23, 28, 37, 44.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Keep life simple and you can reach your goals. A new job or an opportunity to make extra money is within reach. Express your ideas clearly, and interest in what you are doing will follow. You will impress someone influential.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Keep a low profile. Don't be too vocal about the changes you want to make. Work behind the scenes instead of trying to present your ideas before they are ready. Timing is crucial. Trying to take on too much will lead to disappointment.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Take care of unfinished business before beginning something new. Stick to what you do best, and the rest will fall into place. Make changes at home that are more conducive to a project you want to pursue. Strive for greater financial security.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Don't let what others are doing distract you. Do your own thing and let your imagination and originality take over, and you will come up

with a unique contribution. A change in a relationship will turn out to be beneficial.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Go about your business and make changes that suit you and promise greater success or happiness. Following through persistently will pay off. The experience you gain now will help you out in the future. Invest in yourself, not someone else.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Put your time and effort into self-improvements, learning and enhancing your skills. Don't let anyone discourage you from following through with plans that will lead to a better you. Demanding individuals must be kept at a distance.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You can make things happen. Join forces with people trying to make the same improvements or changes that you are, and you will make new friends and accomplish your goals. Good fortune will be yours if you follow through.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Someone will get in your way or cause problems if you neglect your responsibilities. Use unusual methods to get around a situation that has the potential to be costly. Put time aside to do something enjoyable with someone special.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Look over contracts or personal documents and you will find a way to save some cash. A home improvement project or using your place as a source of income will ensure a stable financial future. A competitive challenge will motivate you.

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD
IN ASTROLOGYCOURTESY 2007
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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Don't rely on anyone for anything. Stick close to home and avoid getting involved in disputes with friends, relatives or neighbors. Personal improvements will bring the highest return as long as you don't go over budget.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Look around, size up your situation and take action. Making a move will ensure that you stay ahead of the competition. Don't fall for a sales pitch offering a product that claims to work miracles. Use your skills to increase your income.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Question what you are being told. Don't make any plans without doing your homework. Changing your appearance shouldn't cause anxiety. Do what makes you feel comfortable and don't worry about what someone else thinks you should do.

Birthday Baby: You are sensitive, outgoing and popular. You are self-sufficient and sympathetic. Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

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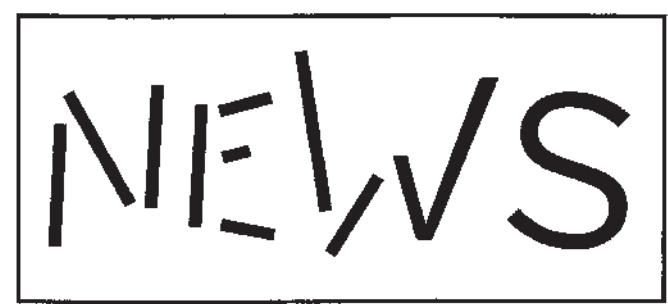
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No. 1 Kentucky holds off Notre Dame, 68-66



C L E V E -
L A N D (AP)—
With everything at stake,
Kentucky
didn't panic
and played to perfection.

The Wildcats made clutch shots, buckled down on fearless Notre Dame and kept their unblemished season intact.

The shot at history and another NCAA title are in reach.

Andrew Harrison made two free throws with six seconds remaining, and the unbeaten Wildcats made their last nine shots to survive their toughest test to date, coming back after trailing for much of the second half to defeat the Fighting Irish 68-66 on Saturday night in the Midwest Regional final.

The Wildcats (38-0), seeking to become college basketball's first undefeated champion in 39 years, advanced to the Final Four in Indianapolis next week, where they will meet Wisconsin—a rematch of last year's semifinal.

"We know our will to win," said Aaron Harrison, who hit a crucial 3-pointer. "And it just showed us we never give up, and we fight to the end just like any other team."

These Wildcats are not like any other team.

The Fighting Irish (32-6) came within seconds of shocking the tournament's overwhelming favorite. Notre Dame, with a rich history of stunning upsets in football and basketball, wasn't done until Jerian Grant's double-clutch 3-pointer from the left corner was long.

When the ball harmlessly hit the floor and the horn sounded, Kentucky's players hugged in celebration knowing they had ducked disaster. The Cats had used up one of their nine lives.

"We didn't play very well and Notre Dame, I thought, controlled the whole thing, but we made the plays," Kentucky coach John Calipari said. "We figured out a way to win it. We've had other tests, but we have a will to win."

Karl-Anthony Towns scored 25-17 after halftime—to lead Kentucky.

Zach Auguste scored 20, Steve Vasturia 16 and Grant 15 for the third-seeded Fighting Irish, playing in their first regional final in 36 years.

There was no doubt Notre Dame belonged. The ACC tournament champions controlled the tempo and weren't intimidated by the Wildcats and their collection of high school All-Americans and soon-to-be NBA millionaires.

The Fighting Irish took the fight to Kentucky and nearly pulled off another one of those shockers.

"We really thought we had a great chance of beating them, and I thought we displayed that," Notre Dame coach Mike



AP
Kentucky players celebrate after a 68-66 win over Notre Dame in a college basketball game in the NCAA men's tournament regional finals, Saturday, March 28, 2015, in Cleveland.

end, they have a chance to win it all."

The Badgers hit 10 of 12 3-point attempts in the second half—connecting on a season-high 67 percent overall—and outscored the Wildcats 30-3 from long range. Dekker had five 3-pointers and was named most outstanding player of the West Regional.

"This tournament, he's really shown his full arsenal offensively and defensively," teammate Josh Gasser said. "When he's confident like that making plays, being aggressive, this is the stuff that happens."

Arizona closed within two points early in the second half only to watch Dekker casually fling up a rainbow 3. The Wildcats got within one a minute later and Dekker let loose with another high-arching 3, sending Badger fans into delirium.

"Eventually when that ball gets out, everybody on the court can shoot it, and they get you with an open 3 that breaks your back," Miller said. "They had two 3s at the half. Think about that."

Arizona pressured full court in the last 4 minutes, making for some perilous possessions by the Badgers as they darted and passed trying to safely get the ball down court. A long in-bounds pass by Wisconsin was nearly intercepted before Gasser grabbed it, got fouled and made both free throws to keep the Badgers ahead by 10 points.

"Emptied the bucket, and it was a big one," Miller said of his defensive schemes. "We've tried everything."

Just like a year ago, Kaminsky was a big key. He sidestepped and slithered, pivoted and deked in eluding the Wildcats' lockdown defense. Arizona tossed its biggest bodies on the 7-footer and he still found ways to score inside and out.

Kaminsky led the Badgers' offensive outburst to start the second half. He scored eight of their 14 points, working their inside-outside game to perfection in finding Dekker for a 3-pointer to put Wisconsin ahead 44-36.

"I'm just so happy right now," Kaminsky said.

Hollis-Jefferson and Tarczewski picked up their third fouls and Stanley Johnson left the game to have his contact lens adjusted, all in quick succession. It didn't faze the Wildcats, who went on a 10-3 run to close to 47-46.

Dekker hit Wisconsin's fifth 3-pointer of the second half, launching a 10-2 spurt that gave the Badgers a 57-48 lead. Nigel Hayes added a 3 and Kaminsky scored on a reverse layup before getting called for his third foul.

Brey said. "But I think you've got to give them credit, they made some big plays, they made some timely 3-point shots at key times."

Calipari insisted on Friday his team was not perfect, only unbeaten and that any team left in the tournament was capable of toppling the top Cats.

Notre Dame was right there.

"It's tough," said Grant, who returned to Notre Dame this season after being dismissed for academics. "Just to be so close to making history, from doing something so special and just like that it's over. We felt we played well enough to win."

Following a brief award ceremony, Kentucky's players cut down the nets as Prince's "Party Like It's 1999" blared through the speakers inside Quicken Loans Arena, which rocked for more than two hours as Notre Dame and Kentucky traded baskets. The game featured 20 lead changes and 12 ties.

Down six with 5:22 left after Auguste's three-point play, Kentucky roared back and took a 64-63 lead on Aaron Harrison's 3-pointer with 3:14 left. The sophomore, who hit two big last-second shots in last year's tournament to get Kentucky to the title game, stared into the crowd of delirious Wildcats fans, including actress Ashley Judd, who spent most of the night jumping out of her seat.

Notre Dame's Grant responded with a 3 to put the Irish ahead 66-64, but the Wildcats again

**Wisconsin 85,
Arizona 78**

In Los Angeles, Just call him

went inside to the 6-foot-11 Towns, who backed down Auguste to drop in another layup.

The Fighting Irish ran as much clock out as possible, but Grant had his shot blocked by Willie Cauley-Stein and the ball went back to Kentucky on a 35-second violation — Notre Dame's only turnover of the second half. Kentucky then put the ball in Andrew Harrison's hands and he drew a foul before knocking down his free throws.

Grant pushed the ball up, but with several Kentucky players in his face, his last-second heave was way off.

Before the game, Brey said his players would have the nation's support, believing the Fighting Irish would be adopted by the nation and take the floor as "America's team."

With a fan holding a sign that said: "Miracles Happen," Notre Dame didn't shy away from driving the ball at Kentucky's front line in the first half, getting several put-back dunks.

For a long stretch of the second half it appeared the Fighting Irish would add another upset to their roster of stunners, none bigger than ending UCLA's 88-game winning streak in 1974.

But this Kentucky team wouldn't have it, and are now on history's doorstep.

"We know we're not perfect," Calipari said.

And not done, either.

Sam Dagger.

Sam Dekker hit 5 of Wisconsin's 10 3-pointers in the second half on his way to a second straight career high of 27 points, Frank Kaminsky added 29 points and the top-seeded Badgers beat No. 2 Arizona 85-78 on Saturday to reach consecutive Final Fours for the first time in school history.

The Wildcats twice got within five points in the last 2 1/2 minutes, but both times Dekker connected on arcing 3-pointers, narrowly beating the shot clock on the first one.

"Sam Dekker pretty much just crushed our dreams with that shot," Arizona guard T.J. McConnell said.

Dekker confirmed the Badgers are more than just "Frank the Tank." The junior followed up his career-high 23 points and 10 rebounds in a semifinal win over North Carolina with timely shooting that bailed out the Badgers.

"Incredible game," tweeted Packers quarterback Aaron Rodgers from his seat behind the Badgers' bench, calling Dekker "cold blooded."

Wisconsin (35-3) denied the Wildcats (34-4) a Final Four berth for the second straight year, having beaten them by one point in overtime in Anaheim a year ago when their seeds were reversed.

"That loss left a sour taste in our mouth, so we wanted to get back," Dekker said of last season's 1-point loss to Kentucky in the national semifi-

nals. "As a team we set some goals of what we wanted to do, and now we're two games away from our last goal."

The Badgers and 67-year-old coach Bo Ryan head to Indianapolis next week for another shot at undefeated and top-ranked Kentucky, which beat Notre Dame 68-66 in the Midwest Regional final.

"I'm so proud of these guys to be able to say that they've answered the bell in the second half in almost every game we've played here in the last seven to 10 games," Ryan said. "They're a tough bunch, and I hope they don't change."

Rondae Hollis-Jefferson and Brandon Ashley scored 17 points each for the Wildcats, who once again failed to deliver a first-time Final Four appearance for coach Sean Miller. McConnell added 14 points in his college finale and Kaleb Tarczewski and Gabe York had 11 each.

"It was tough to be playing hard on defense and trying to get a stop to win the game and he made those shots," Hollis-Jefferson said of Dekker. "It was tough to watch them go in, but in basketball you have those days."

Miller compared the Badgers' offensive execution and ability to make shots to a video game.

"Sam Dekker and Frank Kaminsky, they're really good," Miller said. "No team has done what they did to us in the second half. They made shots, and if they play like that next week-

Warriors beat Bucks 108-95, clinch top seed in West



MILWAUKEE (AP)—The Golden State Warriors achieved two impressive milestones with another double-digit win on the road.

Now it's a matter of staying healthy and feeling good going into the postseason for the team with the best record in the NBA.

Stephen Curry scored 25 points, and the Warriors clinched the top seed in the Western Conference by pulling away in the second half of a 108-95 victory on Saturday night over the Milwaukee Bucks.

Klay Thompson added 21 for Golden State, which also set a franchise record with its 60th victory of the season. The Warriors hold a 10-game lead over second-place Memphis in the West with nine games left in the regular season.

"Wins and losses might not matter when it comes to the standings but we want to win as many games as possible and we want to feel good about how we're going into the playoffs," Curry said. "That's the test for us over these next nine games."

Khris Middleton had 14 points for Milwaukee, which fell back under .500 at 36-37 after winning two straight.

The young Bucks forced 22

turnovers. But they don't have sweet-shooting difference-makers like Thompson and Curry in the backcourt.

"You can see how they have a feel for one another. They both can shoot the ball extremely well. One is in foul trouble and the other one picks it up," Bucks coach Jason Kidd said. "You always have to be concerned with those two on the floor."

The smooth Thompson scored 17 in the third quarter to help the Warriors pull away after the Bucks got within 57-50 on Middleton's jumper with 8:25 left in the period.

Thompson followed with a 3 from the left wing. The guard turned with a stoic face as he walked slowly back to the bench after the Bucks called timeout.

The Warriors won their 10th straight with another impressive performance on defense and from behind the arc. They finished 12 of 25 from 3-point range, including 6 of 9 from Curry.

"With their commitment to each other, and to the work, enjoy, and it's been so much fun," coach Steve Kerr said. "It's great to kind of rack up these milestones as we go."

Milwaukee did manage to slice a 19-point deficit to 11 a few times in the fourth quarter. John Henson's bucket with



8:06 left got Milwaukee within 84-73.

But Curry followed with a long 3 that had fans at the

Bradley Center sighing. Once again, Curry's range helped put a game out of reach for a Golden State opponent.

Bulls 111, Knicks 80

In Chicago, Nikola Mirotic scored 24 points, Pau Gasol added 19 points and 12 rebounds, and Chicago handed New York its franchise-record 60th loss.

A night after tying the team's previous single-season loss mark, the Knicks dropped their seventh straight and 14th in 16 games.

Jimmy Butler scored 18 for Chicago.

The rookie Mirotic had another strong game, finishing five points shy of his career high. Gasol recorded his league-leading 48th double-double as Chicago won for the fifth time in six games.

The Bulls, who led by 20 at halftime, fell four points short of their most lopsided victory of the season. They pulled within two games of Central Division leader Cleveland and moved 1 1/2 games ahead of fourth-place Toronto in the Eastern Conference.

Andrea Bargnani led New York with 14 points and seven rebounds.

Hornets 115, Hawks 100

In Charlotte, North Carolina, Kemba Walker scored 21 points and Charlotte beat an Atlanta team missing all five starters.

Gerald Henderson scored 20 points on 9-of-10 shooting, and Mo Williams hit four 3-pointers and had 18 points as the Hornets snapped a three-game losing streak.

Marvin Williams chipped in with 17 points for Charlotte (31-41), which moved back within a

game of eighth place in the tight Eastern Conference.

Kent Bazemore scored 20 points and Dennis Schroder had 17 points and 11 assists for the Hawks, who sat all five starters one night after clinching the top seed in the East playoffs.

DeMarre Carroll, Kyle Korver, Al Horford and Paul Millsap were given a night to rest, while Jeff Teague sat out with a sprained ankle for Atlanta (55-18). Bazemore, Mike Muscala, John Jenkins and Elton Brand started alongside Schroder.

Jazz 94, Thunder 89

In Salt Lake City, Trey Burke scored 22 points off the bench to held Utah rally from a 16-point deficit and beat Oklahoma City.

The Jazz needed extra offense with Derrick Favors sidelined with back spasms and Burke provided it.

The Thunder were poised for a blowout as Russell Westbrook scored 13 first-quarter points and Oklahoma City led by 16 early in the second quarter. Utah quieted Westbrook and outscored the Thunder 55-29 over the next quarter and a half to take a 10-point lead into the fourth.

Gordon Hayward scored 17 and Rudy Gobert added 13 points, 15 rebounds and four blocks.

Westbrook warmed back up in the fourth and ended the night with 37 points, six assists and eight rebounds. Enes Kanter had 18 and 11 rebounds against his former team.

Trail blazers 120, Nuggets 114

In Portland, Oregon, LaMarcus Aldridge had 32 points and 11 rebounds, and Portland beat Denver for its third consecutive victory.

Portland increased its Northwest Division lead to 6 1/2 games over second-place Oklahoma City, which lost to Utah 94-89. The Blazers have 10 games remaining in the regular season, the Thunder nine.

Aldridge shot 6 of 8 and scored 16 points during the third quarter to help Portland increase a five-point halftime lead to 86-78.

Arron Afflalo scored 21 points, his Portland high since he was acquired from Denver on Feb. 19. Nicolas Batum added 15 points and Chris Kaman 14 for the Blazers.

Jameer Nelson scored 22 and Randy Foye 17 as Denver had seven players reach double figures.

Jimmy Walker leads hometown Texas Open

SAN ANTONIO (AP)—Jimmy Walker opened a four-stroke lead over fellow Texan Jordan Spieth, shooting a 3-under 69 on Saturday in his hometown Texas Open.

Walker, who lives 35 minutes away from TPC San Antonio, is looking for his fifth title in two tour seasons. He had a 9-under 207 total after opening with rounds of 71 and 67.

"It's a tough golf course," said Walker, the winner of the Sony Open in Hawaii in January. "I thought coming into today that even par or maybe 1 under would be a good score. You definitely want to find a way to extend the lead, but you have to be smart about it."

Spieth shot a 71. The 21-year-old Dallas player, coming off a playoff victory two weeks ago at Innisbrook, had a double bogey, two bogeys and two birdies on the final six holes.

"It's not ideal - I really look for more consistency," Spieth said.

FedEx Cup champion Billy Horschel birdied the final three holes for a 69 to get to 3 under.

"I wanted to give myself some opportunities coming in," Horschel said. "It was a nice one to get at 16 - it was blowing downwind and that green has been pretty firm all



AP
Jimmy Walker watches his drive from the first tee during the third round of the Valero Texas Open golf tournament, Saturday, March 28, 2015, in San Antonio.

week. And they had the tees moved up at 17 and 18, just straight downwind today."

Five players were seven back of Walker at 2 under. Zach Johnson birdied the last two holes for a 72, Chesson Hadley had a 71, tour rookie Scott Pinckney shot 69, 2011 champion Brendan Steele had a 72, and Jason Kokrak finished with a 71.

Phil Mickelson was even par after a 74. He had a near double-eagle on the 14th hole.

Tied making the turn, Walker broke away from Spieth with a two-shot swing on the par-5 14th and extended when Spieth hit his tee shot at the par-3 16th into more trouble well right of

the grandstand.

Both players have long-established roots in Texas. Spieth played on the Texas Longhorns' national champion team in 2012, and Walker was an All-American at Baylor.

"Jordan and I played the first two days out here and we had a lot of people," Walker said. "We'll probably have even more people tomorrow. It should be fun."

Playing in the group ahead at No. 14, Spieth left a long bunker shot in the sand and failed to make a 13-footer once he got on the green.

Walker planted a wedge shot a foot away from the cup and made birdie.

Spieth got a shot back with an 8-foot birdie putt at 15, then hit a tee shot on the 191-yard 16th that ended up about 40 yards right of the green. He took two chips and lipped out a 4-footer en route to a double bogey.

"I'm going to have to hit the ball better than I did today," Spieth said. "A couple of tough breaks on the back nine. All in all, I was playing a really solid round of golf, minus a couple of decisions and a couple of swings."

Spieth bounced back to birdie the short par-4 17th.

Walker also birdied 17 after hitting a short pitch to 7 feet away. He capped his round with a 9-foot birdie putt on 18.

Mickelson had all sorts of short-game troubles while shooting a front-nine 40.

That included two shots from the fringe leading to a double bogey at No. 4, taking four shots to find the hole and bogeying after driving into a greenside bunker at the short par-4 fifth, missing a 3-foot par putt at the seventh and missing a green in regulation while blasting from a greenside bunker at the par-5 eighth.

He also missed birdie putts of 8 feet at Nos. 2 and 6.

He nearly holed out for double-eagle from 258 yards on the par-5 14th. His eagle put him back in red figures, but he bogeyed 16.

90-day period for A/E design of Oleai track starts

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

The 90-day period for developing the architectural and engineering design for the rehabilitation work of the Oleai track and field facility started and the Northern Marianas Housing Corp. and the Northern Marianas Sports Association will have to wait for less than three months before bidding for the project starts.

Only one firm submitted the A/E design for the track oval's

resurfacing two weeks ago. The deadline was on March 13 with NMHC deputy corporate director Zenie P. Mafnas opting not to divulge the name of the contractor.

"The A/E work needs to be completed first before bid for the construction starts. Only one contractor submitted the A/E design," said Mafnas in a telephone interview with the *Saipan Tribune*.

"We're done with the pre-

liminary selection but I can't divulge their name since the contract is not yet official and we're still finalizing the details. All I can say is the A/E design work is moving forward. We will have 90 days before bidding for the rehab work starts."

NMSA vice president Kurt Barnes, in a separate interview, said the 90-day period is where the A/E design will be further developed along with the scope of work. They, however, could not prevent the re-

surfacing to begin within the rainy season.

"This is how the detailed timeline from start to finish of the track resurfacing. Unfortunately, yes, the resurfacing will run into the rainy season," said Barnes.

"This can't be helped as NMSA and NMHC must follow the CNMI procurement procedures. There's absolutely no way to expedite the whole process."

NMSA executive director Tony Rogolifo, on the other

hand, said they wanted to follow the process of resurfacing the track on the same standards set by the International Association of Athletics Federations.

"We want to be sure the design is okay and the whole process of resurfacing the track

would be followed to the letter according to its IAAF certification.

NMHC is the funding agency for the track resurfacing after it awarded the money to NMSA through a Community Development Block Grant.

Change of time in AsPac committee meeting

The Asia-Pacific-Middle East Junior, Senior, and Big League Regional Tournament organizing committee will again meet on Wednesday, April 1, at the conference room of the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The meeting will be at 9am instead of 10am with tournament director and former CNMI Little League district administrator James Ada requesting the change in time schedule.

Ada is expected to hear the progress reports of each committee heads' assignments particularly Annie Flores, who is in charge of securing accommodation for all competing teams.

The committee is looking to reserve at least 85 rooms from any of the hotels that could accommodate the 17 teams, spread out in the three divisions, which offers one spot each to this year's Little

League World Series.

Using Marianas High School as an athletes' village is also an option that the committee is looking into since it is near the Francisco M. "Tan Ko" Palacios Baseball Field.

The regional tournament committee, aside from giving progress reports, is also set to discuss in adopting its bylaws on Wednesday.

Australia and Chinese-Taipei have already confirmed their participation in the regional tournament, set from June 26 to July 5.

Australia will only be competing in the Juniors division, while Chinese-Taipei will be sending in the Junior and Big League classes. The CNMI, Guam, Indonesia, and the Philippines are the only countries that confirmed of fielding teams in all three divisions. *(Jon Perez)*

Atarashi Boyz, Spartans widen lead in their divisions

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

 The Jokers Atarashi Boyz and the Jokers Spartans widened their lead against their rivals in their respective divisions after last week's matches in the Bud Light-Saipan Electronic Darts Association Winter/Spring 2015 season.

The Atarashi Boyz escaped with a 9-6 decision over the cellar-dwelling Sand Juvy Dabarkads to hike their record to 53-22 or a full 10-game edge over the second running Pasaways (43-32), the sister squad

of their opponents, in the Tuesday B division.

The Smoke Pub Titans nipped the Pasaways, 8-7, while the Dartaholics edged the Barcode Like or Not, 9-6, in other Tuesday B games.

The Spartans duplicated the Atarashi Boyz's feat in the Kingfisher C division as the Jokers-backed squad hold a 54-21 record after a 12-3 crushing of lowly Smoke Pub High Flyers (27-48).

The Route 33 Dart Knights are in second place with a 45-30 slate followed by the 36-39 mark of the San Juvy Sea-Ricks.

The Dart Knights pulled off a 10-5 win over the Naked Fish

Hafa Mas and the Jokers Chagi Fan clipped the Sea-Ricks, 8-7, also in the Kingfisher C division. Results for the rest of the division are as follows:

Masters

- TDI Summit 11, Shoot Balut 6
- Pythons 9, Darting Chelu's 8
- Destroyers 10, Scratch 'N' Sniff 7

A Division

- 101 Proofers 12, Snipers 5
- Ridin' Darrry 9, Sakude! 8
- Mafia 11, Predators 7
- Voyagers 9, Huntlaw 8
- Warriors 13, No Fear 4

With than in mind, I tried to gain more lead uphill," Allen said.

Weiss also used the same strategy.

"I was very careful in the descent because the season is still early and if I get hurt bad in the bike leg, I may miss the rest of the races this year. The race condition was pretty wild. Last week, it was so dry and today, it was all wet and dangerous," said Weiss, who finished the race more than six minutes behind Allen with his 2:46:45.

Weiss and six other pros spent the rest of the race trying to catch up with Allen, but to no avail. Takahiro Ogasawara settled for third with his 2:48:19, followed by Austria's Markus Benesch (2:52:54), Russia's Alexande Dorovskikh (2:55:51), the Philippines' Joe Miller (3:02:33), New Caledonia's David Esposito (3:13:39), and Korea's Kaon On (3:25:43).

Ito were held to one basket apiece.

"I came close to between one and two minutes, but he (Allen) would not open up and kept pushing in the bike and I could not respond and risk getting injured," said Weiss, who hails from South Africa.

With a sizeable lead, heading into the last leg, Allen had cruise control to extend his reign in the annual race.

"It was beautiful running in the rain and enjoying nature," said Allen, who clocked in at 54:34 in the run leg and was still the fastest among the men's pro ranks.

Slack also admired the beauty of the run leg around the Navy Hill forest.

"It was gorgeous out there with the rain pouring instead of the heat. The condition (rainy) really played to my strength and I am very happy to regain the championship," said Slack, who was the second fastest women pro in the bike leg with her 1:00:28.

Wasle was the fastest wom-

en's pro in the last part of the race after submitting 58:31, but simply could not catch up with Slack after struggling in the swim leg and being extra careful in the bike race. Last year's champion registered 20:06 in the swim leg and was with Renata Bucher and Belinda Hadden when they headed to the swim-bike transition area.

In the bike leg, Wasle timed in at 1:48:56 to finish more than five minutes behind Slack.

"I don't like this kind of race condition. I was so afraid downhill because it was so slippery," said Wasle.

Wasle capped the challenging race in 3:07:33 to finish ahead of Mieko Carey (3:20:45), Bucher (3:22:11), Daz Parker (3:36:40), and Hadden (3:49:19).

"It was too risky to push

myself so hard under that condition. We still have a lot of races ahead of us," said Bucher, who came into last weekend's race still recovering from a knee injury. "I was just happy to finish in one piece."

Crashes and scratches
While Bucher and the two winners were lucky, others were not.

The treacherous course claimed its first victim in former XTERRA Saipan champion Olivier Marceau. The French pro had to quit the race as he crashed early in the bike race and broke his bike chain. He sustained scratches on his right arm.

Carey also fell twice along the course and ended up with cuts on both her legs, while Mark Isip, who joined the re-

SALLY

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earned at least one goal each after six weeks of competition.

Sally was scoreless in her first two games for Matansa, but made it to the board in the team's next four matches. She got two goals apiece against Paire FC and Tan Holdings, four versus Kanoa, and one over Shirley's FC.

Borja, on the other hand, found the back of the net four times in the Paire's first five games. She then earned her most goals in a single game in Week 6 after tallying a hat-trick in Paire's 4-1 upset of the second-running Tan

Holdings.

Joining Sally and Borja in the Top 5 are Shirley's Diane Maniacop, MP United's Gillian Villagomez, and Tan Holdings' Chloe Salvosa. Maniacop has earned seven goals, while Villagomez and Salvosa have six apiece.

Other players who have bagged multiple goals in the spring season are Paire's Re-

nitia Fleming (5), Tan Holdings' Mary Kay Alferos (4)

and Chevy Kate Alipio (4),

Kanoa's Princess Alcantara (2), Matansa's Bernadette Horey (2), and Shirley's Katherine Magata (2) and De

Jana Muna (2).

MP United's Franchesca

lay, had a bruise on his left chest after bumping into one of the humps at the backside of Mt. Tapochao and slamming into his handle bar on his way to the ground.

Several other participants finished the race with cuts, bruises, and scrapes, making the first aid personnel very busy. However, the worst race day belonged to Japanese Takagi Wataru, who had three flat tires and a number of scratches to his legs and arms. As if his misfortunes were not enough, he had to walk his bike in the last 10K.

Gallantly, Wataru completed the race and his time of 4:45:47 was even faster than 14 other finishers. He was given a special award for his effort during the event's banquet last Sunday.

Bucalig has one, along with teammate Maureen Doculan, Shirley's Mia Carreon, Jerlyn Castillo, Katrina Costales, and Jobelle Tabuena, Tan Holdings' Lovely Loyola, and Kanoa's Raenna Ramarui.

Meanwhile, Shirley's leads the team standings, pending results of last weekend's results.

The division leader holds a 4-2-0 win-draw-loss record, the same mark Matansa has, but prevailed in the tiebreak due to its 15 goals against the 11 of Matansa. Paire is at second place with its 3-0-2 slate, followed by Tan Holdings (2-0-4), MP United (2-0-4), and Kanoa (1-0-5).

Swim Leg of Xterra Saipan

PHOTOS BY JON PEREZ AND ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Saipan Swim Club's Kento Akimaru follows leader Ben Allen to the shore for the second lap of the 1.5-kilometer swim leg of last Saturday's Xterra Saipan Championship.



Guam's Mark Cruz, left, tries to fight the cold while he and South Africa's Bradley Weiss wait for the start of the swim race.



Tami Nishikido leads Jerome Diyco as they run along the shore after completing the first lap of the swim race.



Renata Bucher removes her cap, while Carina Wasle and Belinda Hadden get out of the water.



Australian Ben Allen heads to the bike leg's transition area after being the first competitor out of the water.



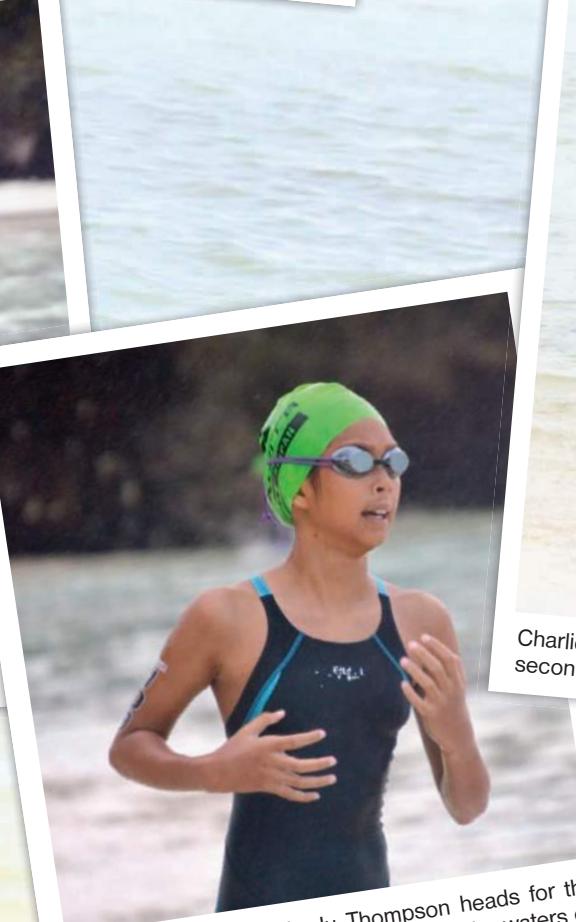
Saipan Swim Club's Christian Villacrusis leads a group of swimmers going for the final lap of the swim leg.



The CNMI's Kimiko McKagan rushes toward the transition area for the bike portion of the race.



United Kingdom's Jacqui Slack runs along the shore for the second lap of the swim race.



Saipan Swim Club's Jin Ju Thompson heads for the second and final lap of the swim race in the waters off Micro Beach.



Charlie Sendin heads back to the water for the second lap of the swim leg.



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Kentucky
holds off Notre
Dame, 68-66
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Warriors beat
Bucks 108-
95, clinch top
seed in West
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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Allen, Slack thrive in rain-soaked Xterra



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Australia's Ben Allen gestures after securing his fourth straight men's division win last Saturday during the 2015 Xterra Saipan Championship.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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The heavy rains and treacherous course could not prevent couple Ben Allen and Jacqui Slack from topping last Saturday's Xterra Saipan Championship.

Allen cruised to his fourth straight victory in Xterra's Crown Jewel after completing the 1.5-kilometer swim, 30K bike, and 12K trail run in

Xterra Saipan and the third in the Xterra Tour. They won in the 2013 Xterra Saipan and 2013 Xterra New Zealand.

"I remember racing in the same tough condition here in 2013. I thrive in this condition because this pushes me harder and gives me the opportunity to use my advantage over my competitors," said Slack, who got the women's division crown she lost to Australia's Carina Wasle last year.

Slack and the rest of the field tackled a wet and wild race last Saturday, as it started raining last Friday and the downpour continued the following day.

At the start of the race in Micro Beach, swimmers were greeted with a cold water, continues rain, and strong current.

"The current was so strong that I had to use a dolphin dive



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ROSELYN B. MONROYO

United Kingdom's Jacqui Slack hoists the tape to celebrate her first place finish in the women's division of last Saturday's 2015 Xterra Saipan Championship.

Settsu routs MHS Blue in finale



By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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Settsu Red Impulse clinched the championship in the girls division of the 2015 Settsu-Saipan Friendship Basketball Tournament after dominating Marianas High School Blue in the winner-take-all finale, 44-27, last Friday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Settsu made up for its lack of manpower with decent shooting to cruise to the title win. The visiting squad from Japan played in the entire tournament with only six players and managed to survive the six-team competition after drawing a good game from Ayumi Nakano, Miyu Ohara, and Karen Morishita in the finals.

The trio scored in double

figures with Nakano and Ohara firing 13 apiece and Morishita adding 13. Hashimoto and Maike, who chipped in 5 and 2, respectively, completed Settsu's box score. Risa Hirayama rounded out the visiting team's roster.

Nakano kicked things off for Settsu, drilling 8 of the team's first 12 points. Ohara finished what Nakano started, hitting 9 points, while Morishita also helped out Settsu's cause in the first half, contributing 8, as team zoomed to an 18-point advantage at the break, 28-10.

MHS Blue fell behind early and played catch up all night, as only Julie Reyes converted more than one field goal for the Lady Dolphins in the first half. Reyes scored the team's last 4 points, while Friendly Joy Pena, Diane Pablo, and Kyla

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Matansa Football Club's Angelica Sally dribbles past a Kanoa FC defender during their girls U15 game in the first round of the NMIFA youth league at the Hopwood Junior High School Field.

Settsu Red Impulse's Miyu Ohara drives against MHS Blue's Negahr Rastguyi, right, and Dianne Pablo during the second half of their title game in the Settsu-Saipan caging last Friday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Sally, Borja lead Golden Boot race

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

the girls U15 division of the ongoing 2015 NMIFA Youth Spring League.

Matansa Football Club's Angelica Sally and Paire FC's Guinevere Borja are tied for the lead in the race for the Golden Boot award in



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As of March 21, Sally and Borja has collected nine goals apiece to lead 18 others, who has